

# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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## ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

### NONCONFORMIST PORTRAIT GALLERY. No. XII.—THOMAS SHILLITOE.

ONCE upon a time a subordinate functionary was complaining to a high authority of the *lowness* of his desk, little doubting that the necessary alteration would be granted to his wishes, when his dream of comfort was suddenly broken by the reply, "O yes—we must get a *shorter clerk*." There were *two* ways of adjusting the relations of clerk and desk; the complainant had thought of only *one*. Much the same mistake are men perpetually making. They can see distinctly one way in which *they* and the world might be fitted together—by altering *the world*; but forget the other way—by altering *themselves*. They detect and desire to have removed impracticabilities of constitution, station, sphere, age, and race, but do not discern or realise how certain changes in their own souls, their views, and aims, and principles, would remedy the evil quite as fully and more blessedly. And this last change—for here the illustration with which we started fails—is much the easiest of the two; indeed, it is the only one possible at all on a large scale. Happy he whose heart is taught and moved to make it, that he may "fulfil his course," and "finish his ministry," nor receive dismissal from the post of labour, while complaining of the badness of his lot, with the saying, "We must get a better man."

The instances of moral power and greatness are generally taken from a stereotyped class. The names are hacknied. We propose to go out of the beaten track, yet not alone for the sake of novelty. It is possible that our present "hero" is unknown to most of our readers. Few have ever heard of Thomas Shillitoe, and fewer still, it may be, appreciate his character. The popular taste is miserably vicious. The doers of evil get the glory; "saviour" is not "above every name;" and even those who praise well-doers are often unconsciously affected by the circumstances of their course while they applaud its excellence. Mere goodness is seldom enough alone. Romance is craved; "interesting" stories are in demand. Men ask not for strength, but stimulus; not for light, but lightning. After the "record of a good man's life," without tragic incidents, without prison or pillory, confiscation or crucifixion, the question is apt to rise, "Is that all?" And there is much in notoriety. Men love to praise, as to travel, in a crowd. The excellence of many good things, like the sin of many evil things, is not in their being *done* so much as in their being *known*. The histories of private life would furnish noble illustrations of faith and of fidelity which have obtained no recognition, and left no more impression on the general mind than "the shadow of a cloud on the waves of the sea":—

"Full many a gem of purest ray serene,  
The dark, unfathomed caves of ocean bear;  
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,  
And waste its fragrance on the desert air."

"Moral courage consists quite as much in speaking faithfully as in acting steadfastly. Many a man capable of spirit-stirring actions has felt himself daunted in the presence of the high and illustrious, and incapable of faithfully uttering the dictates of his conscience. There is as much cowardice as flattery in the adulation which kings and rulers receive; and to speak the plain, unvarnished truth to persons in such a station is a task few appear equal to. About the end of the last and the commencement of the present century a good man, of humble birth and limited education, a member of the Society of Friends, named Thomas Shillitoe, reflecting upon the vast responsibility which rested upon kings, and the opportunities they possessed for improving the moral condition of their people, felt it a matter of duty to attempt to obtain audience of some of the rulers of the earth."

\* "Moral Heroism; or, The Trials and Triumphs of the Great and Good; by Clara Lucas Balfour;" to which excellent little volume we are indebted for the notices of Shillitoe contained in this sketch.

His resolution was most literally, "I will speak of thy testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed." He became a missionary to crowned heads—a class as much in need of visitation and instruction as, perhaps, any that engages the bustling zeal of modern times. Set in "slippery places," surrounded with false shows and misinterpretations, exposed to the bewitching influence of pomp and praise, and little used, though "heads of churches," to the voice of faithful truth, there was some charity as well as courage in meditating and executing a plan of direct personal visitation to them. We do not stop to examine Shillitoe's credentials or his gifts—whether or not he had the right setting apart for his immense task. Verily the question seems rather impertinent when a man is so moved as he was to do good! The best ordination, in our humble judgment, is that which takes place in a man's own heart, with "all his convictions assembled round him," and from which he goes forth to "speak," not because he has been sent, but because he "believes;" and all outward appointments, without that, however solemn, are a mockery—however gorgeous, are a farce!

Well, right or wrong, Thomas Shillitoe "honoured kings" enough to make their good an object of solicitude, and he determined, not by proxy, but in person, to endeavour to promote it. His first royal object of benevolent anxiety was George III. Accompanied by a friend named Stacey, he went to Windsor, and, by means of a slight acquaintance with a subordinate in the castle, obtained admittance to the royal stables. The King, with two of his nobles, soon visited the spot, when Stacey opened the commission with, "This friend of mine hath something to communicate to the King." "His Majesty raised his hat, and his attendants ranging themselves on his left and right, Thomas Shillitoe advanced in front, saying, 'Hear, O King,' and, in a discourse of about twenty minutes' duration, pressed upon the monarch the importance of true religion in persons of exalted station, and the influence and responsibility attached to power?" It is said that the King attended most seriously to the address, "the tears trickling down his cheeks," that he did not hunt that day, but returned to the Queen, and informed her of what had passed. On two occasions, Shillitoe presented an address on religious subjects to George the Fourth. Visiting the Continent on a religious mission, the desecration of the Lord's day attracted the attention and depressed the spirit of our hero; "consequently, when he was in Denmark, he determined to see the King. He had no friend in Copenhagen, either to advise or aid him in his undertaking; yet, having resolved on it as a matter of duty, he determined to use every means to accomplish his object. Accordingly, learning the name of the prime minister, he went to him and requested his influence in obtaining him an audience with the King. This bold request, though urged with all the mild self-possession of native courtesy, startled the prime minister, who, gazing on the attire of the person making such a request, said, 'You do not mean to appear before the King in those clothes, do you?' With the utmost simplicity, Thomas Shillitoe says, in his journal, 'I told him I had no others with me, as it was uncertain I should want my best until summer. I had left them at Altona.' The nobleman smiled at this frank reply, and promised, on the following morning, to procure the applicant the interview he wished. Shillitoe saw the King, with whom he remonstrated on the general desecration of the Lord's day in his dominions, and on the evil effects of the lotteries which the government licensed. When in Prussia, Shillitoe had an interesting interview with the King in the garden of the palace of Berlin, in the first instance presenting a petition respecting a friend who was suffering for his refusal to serve as a soldier, and afterwards adding solemn admonition on the general duty of sovereigns. The King listened graciously, and promised amendment. Access was obtained with comparative ease to Alexander, the late Emperor of Russia, and brother to the present Emperor Nicholas. When admitted to the presence of "the most absolute monarch of Europe," "the venerable messenger of truth, for he was now advanced in years, began boldly to inform the Emperor of the abuses and oppressions that existed under his government." Part of the Emperor's remarks are worthy of notice:—"My mind is at times brought under great suffering to know how to move along; I see things necessary for me to do, and things necessary for me to refuse complying with, which are expected from me. You have counselled me to an unreserved and well-timed obedience in all things; I clearly see it to be my duty, and this is what I want

to be brought into the experience of; but, when I try for it, doubts come into my mind, and discouragements prevail; for, although they call me an absolute monarch, it is but little power I have for doing that which I see it to be right for me to do."

It is impossible to look at what was done in these instances without perceiving that Shillitoe worked a great work. Even his own religious body, not used to be terrified or surprised by strange adventures of duty and of daring, did not much encourage him, "the general impression being, that the attempt, though in itself laudable, was impracticable." Such a mission must have been, in any case, difficult and hazardous, but, undertaken by such an one as Shillitoe, it is not easy to imagine onemore so. To reprove kings is not a common qualification of good men—at least to reprove them where they *are*, though it is the easiest of all things to reprove them where they are *not*. In this case the business was not facilitated by rank, education, or polished address. There was almost everything to oppose the fulfilment of Shillitoe's cherished purpose. However strongly he might feel, the likelihood was great that his convictions would not be wrought into actual deeds, that they would get benighted and murdered on the road to practical obedience. A thousand reasons might have been summoned, and would have come if summoned, by disinclination or indecision. The difficulties of carrying out his design, fear of mockery and scorn in case of failure, and even of more serious consequences in any case, could scarcely fail to be suggested. Nothing but a resolute will could secure success, and that found a way where otherwise there would have been insuperable obstacles, and even respect where otherwise there might have been a rough rebuke.

Reader! Fame has been acquired in our own day by the intrusion of vanity or curiosity into the precincts of royalty: shall we not honour Thomas Shillitoe? And can we honour him sincerely and fully without discharging *our* mission of truth and faithfulness to those in whose presence we *are*, and have not *to go*—the right royal souls of the sons of men? It is a greater thing to be a *man* than to be a *king*, and who is there that has not "a message" to men? Surely, we may learn from Shillitoe how little reason there is for silence,—how apt the reply for him who murmurs at the *lowness of his desk*.

## THE GRAND IMPOSTURE.

THE favourite scheme of all political parties claiming credit for the liberality of their views, for the pacification of Ireland by the endowment of the Roman Catholic priests, is one upon which we find it difficult to comment without burning indignation. There is in it an intensity of selfishness, a refinement of cruelty, a cold-blooded and professional victimising of human weakness, and a reckless impiety indifferent alike to the character of the act, and of its consequences, worthy of the foulest conceptions of the darkest ages. We have well weighed our words, and we speak only the deliberate sense of our judgment. The quack who, on calculation, practises deceit upon a suffering, a helpless, but a confiding patient—the lawyer subtly inclosing in his meshes a client whom he is professing to serve—human craft in any walk of life playing upon credulity by a show of kind interest merely with the intention of fixing a hook in its jaws—who does not denounce them? Who can speak of them with patience? But is similar imposture on a national scale to escape rebuke? When statesmen are the criminals, and millions are the victims—when glaring, gross, ruinous injustice is the malady, and the remedy recommended merely tickles prevailing superstition, and diverts notice from the true seat of disease—in short, when a populous community, crushed and groaning under general and systematic misgovernment, is approached through its prejudices, not to raise and comfort it, but to keep it quiet as it is—no language can too strongly characterise the offence to both man and God.

Ireland is suffering, has suffered, will suffer for many years yet to come, under a wasting sickness. Rich in all its natural capabilities, it has the poorest and most squalid population in Europe. Five millions of its inhabitants subsist almost exclusively upon the lowest species of human food, whilst abundance of grain and cattle, the produce of their own fertile country, is exported to Great Britain. Thus drained of her own natural wealth, Ireland has lost hope, the best incentive to exertion. Rest the blame where it may, none can avoid being driven upon the conclusion, that such a deplorable state of things has been brought about by injustice, and that very much of



that injustice has been prompted, abetted, and aggravated by law. Property in a thousand different ways has wielded legislation against poverty, and, to this day, assumes more than its rights, without recognising any of the duties. To injury it has added insult; and, whilst it has blighted Ireland's hopes, has, under pretence of godly motives, irritated her temper. And now, at length, the evil has become intolerable. Poverty has encouraged population, and population has increased poverty, until together they have become dangerous. We have tried coercion, but in vain—we have thrown sops for conciliation, but still in vain. But as yet we have never tried legislative and administrative JUSTICE—justice, we mean, searching, impartial, and inflexible, between those who have and those who have not. And there stands Ireland before us, a reproach upon her connexion with us—beautiful in form and feature even now, but wrinkled by distress, disfigured by dirt, and clad in rags.

Oh! what shall be said—what ought to be said of men, who, afraid to attack the real evil because it would pare down their class advantages, conceive the project of smothering up this aggregation of iniquities, and of giving a new lease to profitable injustice, by playing upon the religious sympathies of the people? For famishing, half-clad, and ill-employed Ireland, our statesmen can prescribe nothing better than a State-payment of her priesthood. Their care for office is mainly excited by the prospect it holds out to them of realising, at length, their "vision of good government for Ireland"—and, to rescue her from the deep degradation into which ages of wrong have sunk her, they propose to muffle the public spirit of her clergy. With startling effrontery they have not scrupled to designate this policy by the term *liberal*—and a measure which must directly tend, and seems designed, to secure the quiet continuance of oppression by enlisting sacerdotal influence in its favour, they coolly represent as objectionable to none but unpatriotic and narrow-minded bigots. Well! it shall not be for want of effort on our part to expose it, that these self-styled statesmen shall succeed in thus masking the drift of their contemplated scheme—and we believe it will be no very difficult task to uncover to the common honesty and common sense of the English people the true character of this GRAND IMPOSTURE.

What, now, is the practical superscription of this measure? What is it intended, by its most ardent advocates, to do? What important change in the political or social condition of Ireland is it expected to secure? In what direction, and to what extent, is it anticipated that its ameliorating influences will work? At what point, in fact, will it touch, or even pretend to touch, the disease under which that unhappy country labours? Will the peasantry derive from it the shadow of a shade of substantial benefit? What aptitude is there, what tendency, direct or remote, in making a legal provision for the priesthood, to lift Irish poverty out of the depths of its wretchedness? Will it open up to it a single additional chance of being better fed, more decently clothed, more comfortably lodged, more regularly employed? Will it coerce property into a recognition of its duties? Will it abridge the oppressive powers of landlordism? Will it invite the investment of capital, or put a spur into the flanks of enterprise, or disengage pent-up influences of any kind, the activity of which might conduce to a free development of internal resources? Why, no. The "comprehensive scheme" aims at nothing of the sort. It cannot plausibly profess more than to administer a soothing-syrup to religious irritation.

Now we will not underrate the importance of this end. We admit it to be sufficiently valuable to outweigh sacrifices of considerable cost. But it will occur to every one to ask, "Whence this irritation? and why not remove at once the potential cause of it?" Mark now the wisdom of Whig statesmanship! The cause is acknowledged to be the Protestant Church Establishment—the natural result, an acrid sense of injustice. The simple withdrawal of the one would of course put an end to the other. But this will not run all fours with Whig notions of good government. They must needs perpetuate the origin of all this ill blood, that they may have the pleasure of allaying it. With the one hand they raise eruptions which with the other hand they gently scratch. "We will continue to offend," say they, "but we will kiss away the offence. The Established Church in Ireland is a monster anomaly and grievance—therefore, keep it, and counterbalance its mischiefs by a co-ordinate establishment of Roman Catholicism." Why, is there not gross absurdity on the face of it?

We have not yet done with this patriotic proposal, nor with its philosophic, high-minded, and liberal abettors. We have seen what material advantages this precious scheme does not, and the egregious folly that it does, contemplate compassing. Now let us observe at what expense to social, intellectual, and spiritual progress, these men will readily consent to perpetrate their blunder. The great majority of them look upon the particular form of faith which they propose to endow, with undisguised contempt. Whether they are right or wrong in so doing, is nothing to our present purpose. We have to deal now only with the fact. They regard the system as one in which truth is overlaid by sacerdotal fictions—cramping the intellect, destructive of independence, a foe to human progress, the most virulent type of priestly domination. They glory in the great historical events which rescued this country from so ignominious a bondage. And yet, rather than give up the vicious course of misrule which has become so profitable to their class, they are ready to fasten this same system

by a chain of gold upon the neck of Ireland, to give it the solemn sanction of the State, and to proclaim aloud their own indifference as to all religious interests, which nevertheless they persist in claiming to superintend. Political profligacy never put on a more brazen and unblushing front.

Let us not deceive ourselves! Let not pseudo-liberalism delude us. There is one thing this scheme will do—and we verily believe it is the main thing it is meant to do. It will convert the Roman Catholic priests of Ireland from agitators into quietists—and will make them the advocates of things as they are, instead of things as they ought to be. The people themselves will best understand the drift of a policy professedly framed to repair the error of persecution, when they discover, that although not a single cause of complaint has been removed, the power of making it audible has ceased. The endowments given to the priesthood by the State, the representative of the class who have, will make it their wordly interest, to induce the "have nots" to submit in silence. They are now identified with the suffering party—their education, influence, and power of combination give importance to the discontent of that party—but, under the new system in favour with the Whigs and Radicals, the Catholic clergy would be associated with the oppressing party, and would bring their advantages to bear, not in giving voice to hapless misery, but in stifling it. Every village in Ireland which, under what Mr. Macaulay calls "the evil of the voluntary system," has, in the priest, a natural guardian of its rights, would then have, in his place, a paid advocate of submission to "the powers that be"—and the only protector to whom the Irish peasant can look up with confidence, would be interested in justifying the worst deeds of tyranny. On merely political grounds, we denounce the whole scheme, in words which have now become famous, as "a delusion, a mockery, and a snare."

#### THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

The long-expected Conference for the formation of an Evangelical Alliance commenced on Wednesday last. For many weeks previous a committee had been sitting, and preparations were being made for the reception of guests, and the arrangement of other business in connexion with the expected Conference. We understand that upwards of 2,000 tickets of membership have been issued by the committee up to the present time. About 500 were present at the opening meeting. The complexion of the Conference, says the *Patriot*, is peculiar. The Wesleyan Methodists have the preponderance. The Free Church nearly equal them. The Episcopal Church of England sends, as was expected, no new men. The Dissenting denominations of our country are barely represented in their various sections, while some are entirely excluded by the operation of one of the Fundamental Articles. America has delegated a noble band of three-score of her best and truest men. France, Italy, Germany, and Prussia, have their representatives; and, to a stranger overlooking the dense mass of this peace-loving community, one might, in imagination, picture a "World's Evangelical Alliance."

We subjoin the names of some of the leading ministers and laymen who are members of the Conference. Amongst the former, Drs. Bunting, F. A. Cox (London), Cox (America), Massie, Reed, Raffles, Beaumont (Wesleyan), Wardlaw, Brown, Symington, Urwick, Grey, Hill, Drew, Tholuck (of Halle), King, Archer, Crichton, Steane, Olin (Connecticut), De Witt, Burder, Cunningham, Morison, Beecher (U.S.), Blackwood, Patton (New York), Redford, Alder, Carlile, Hoby, Willis, Skinner, Pomroy (U.S.); and Messrs. Bickersteth, Jordan, J. A. James, Jay, Atherton, Noel, Latrobe, J. D. Stewart, Kyle, T. Binney, W. Bevan, G. Osborne, C. M. Birrell, Leigh, Campbell, Thelwall, Chalmers, Bost (of the Canton de Vaud), Thomas Jackson, N. Macleod, M. Richey (Montreal), J. Scott, J. H. Hinton, Vernet (Paris), Fisch (Lyons), Kuntze (Berlin), R. H. Herschell, E. S. Pryce, W. Patterson, W. M. Bunting, F. J. Brown, T. Waugh, H. Woodhouse, J. C. Glynn, W. Ewbank, O. Winslow, A. Monod (France), Mannering, Cordeaux, Seales, Sutcliffe, E. N. Kirke (U.S.), R. S. Hutchinson (Canada), G. B. Kidd, Professor Emery (U.S.); and amongst the latter, Sir C. E. Smith, J. O. Plumtre, Esq., M.P., the Hon. Justice Crampton, R. C. L. Bevan, Esq., A. C. Dunlop, Esq., S. Fletcher, H. S. Maxwell, T. Farmer, Esq., Sir A. Agnew, Bart., J. Henderson, Esq., A. Campbell, Esq. (Monzie), Captain V. Harcourt, Sir D. Brewster, Sir T. W. Blomfield, Sir J. B. Williams, J. Hamilton, Esq., J. Anderson, Esq., W. Wills, Esq., &c., &c.

The first meeting of the Conference was held on Wednesday, at the Freemasons' hall, Great Queen-street, and commenced at ten o'clock; and this Conference will be adjourned, *de die in diem*, till the business is finished. The sittings extend from ten to three, and from five to eight o'clock. Mr. Bickersteth was called upon to preside over the devotional exercises, in which the Conference was engaged for one hour. Mr. J. A. JAMES said he had given the key-note of love at Liverpool, he now gave the key-note of praise. He spoke of discouragements and difficulties, mighty foes and false friends, but predicted that the Alliance, though now in feeble infancy, would soon arise to the sight of the world in all its majesty and glory. Dr. Cox, of New York, then engaged in prayer.

The Conference then proceeded to business. Sir C. E. SMITH, Bart., was elected to preside over the sitting of the day. On taking the chair, Sir Culling expressed himself as deeply grateful to God for the happy manner in which this Convention had been brought about:—

No one could judge of his enthusiasm in the cause, or the emotion with which he viewed the spectacle then presented. Surely, since Jesus Christ himself was on earth, there never was such a scene. Here laymen were united with the clergy in a work of faith and labour of love. Here the best interests of truth and liberty met; and here the centrifugal and

centripetal forces had their happy influence in setting all things right, without permitting the presence of extremes. The eyes of the world were upon them; the Saviour himself looked down to view; a witnessing Church waited to catch the spirit of the assembly; Jew and Gentile, bond and free, attended on their deliberations; and the principalities of darkness, as well as the angels of light, watched with deepest interest their weighty proceedings. The 19th of August would be a celebrated day in the history of the Church.

The chairman then stated he had in his hand an application from the editors and publishers of the *Patriot* newspaper, for permission to be granted to their reporter to attend the sittings of the Conference.

Dr. MASSIE, who, we understand, is one of the principal founders of the present movement, then moved:—

"That in the judgment of this Conference, it is extremely undesirable for any report of their proceedings to be given to the public, except under their own direction; and they express their confidence, that none of their own members will furnish materials for such a purpose to any newspaper whatever."

Dr. MASSIE grounded his recommendation upon experience, which led him to believe that their liberty and safety could only be secured by adopting that plan. If they admitted one, they must admit all.

Dr. RAFFLES held the same view, and seconded the motion.

Dr. COX (London) moved, as an amendment,

"That, in the judgment of this Conference, it is desirable that the reporters of the Press be admitted to its deliberations."

His experience went just the other way to that of Dr. Massie. He would urge the Conference to permit it on the ground of policy as well as of right. The opposite course would create a just suspicion. What had they to conceal? What could be gained by such a step? The papers would have reports; the public had a right to expect it, and he, for one, could be no party to withholding it from them. Besides this, if the influence of these papers was worth anything, this was not the way to enlist it. He contended that the Christian public had a right to be acquainted with the processes of thought by which their conclusions would be attained, and that it would be exceedingly advantageous for it to be seen that, although they differed on many points, yet they could state and maintain those differences in a fraternal spirit.

Dr. BEAUMONT (Wesleyan) contended that they were not dealing fairly with the public. He passed a high eulogium on reporters generally. What guarantee had they that the official report would be such as would satisfy them? He seconded the amendment in a speech of much force.

Mr. J. A. JAMES rose to say he thought the meeting was getting too excited.

Dr. BUNTING disapproved of the idea of reporting being allowed. There was argument in Dr. Cox's speech, but that of the seconder was mere declamation. If the public press were admitted, the public themselves could not be refused entrance. He deprecated lengthened discussions, and proposed going at once to the vote.

Before the vote was taken on the original motion, Professor EMORY (Wesleyan, from America) suggested that, if the matter were left open to the option of parties attending or not, as they chose, it would be much better.

Dr. REED supported this view. The Christian church had a right to know more than the results arrived at in this Conference; they should be aware of the process by which they were brought out.

The vote was taken, when it was found that the amendment was lost, 111, however, having voted in favour of it. The original motion was, consequently, carried, and the meeting passed on to the election of officers.

[This decision of the Conference has of course excluded our reporter from the meetings. We are therefore only able to give the accompanying brief summary of some of the more important proceedings, for part of which we are indebted to the *Patriot*.]

The Conference then proceeded to appoint committees, chairmen, secretaries, &c., and to make other business arrangements. Sir C. E. Smith, Bart., of England; John Anderson, Esq., of Scotland; and the Hon. Justice Crampton, of Ireland, were appointed chairmen to preside over the public meetings. R. C. L. Bevan was appointed treasurer; and W. Bevan, C. M. Birrell, Dr. Byrth, Digby Campbell, A. Thelwall, Dr. Raffles, Dr. Steane, Mr. Osborne, Dr. Bates, W. Chalmers, A. G. Ellis, Esq., R. W. Kyle, and Dr. Urwick, secretaries to the Conference.

After some further routine appointments, the first day's session was opened by the reading of a paper containing an historical account of the proceedings which have issued in the holding of the Conference. This was a most interesting sketch, drawn up by Dr. King, of Glasgow. Drs. WARDLAW and REED suggested, that, as, on some points, especially as referring to the first movements in respect to the question of union in this country, this document was incomplete and calculated to give an erroneous impression, it should be referred back to the Committee for revision, prior to its publication. The thanks of the Conference to Dr. KING for his able paper were carried unanimously. After devotional exercises, the Conference adjourned.

The dinner, held at the Freemasons' hall, at three o'clock, was attended by about five hundred delegates. This is a kind of *table d'hôte*, held daily. After dinner hymns were sung in French, German, and English.

At the evening sitting, after some further appointments, the time was occupied by clergymen from abroad, in giving an account of the state of feeling on the subject of Christian union in other lands.

Dr. PATTON, of New York, after alluding to the immense responsibility which, he thought, rested upon the Convention, remarked that the interest felt in the subject in the United States was very extensive, and that there was an intense anxiety respecting the results of this meeting, and this not simply along the Atlantic shore, where they could embark for England with comparative ease, but through the hamlets of the far west. This was sufficiently evidenced by the fact that so many congregations had relinquished the services of their pastors, some of them at a sacrifice, in order that they might attend this meeting; and also by the fact that,



during the present week, there was a series of special prayer-meetings in several places in the United States, having particular reference to the proceedings of this Convention.

Mr. KIRK, of Boston, and Mr. RICHEY, of Montreal, spoke to a like effect.

Dr. THOLUCK, of Halle, next addressed the meeting. He stated, that the information of the contemplated union had been hailed by almost all evangelical Christians in Germany. Ignorance of the English language prevented them from assembling with the brethren here in great numbers, but he would assure them that there were numbers engaged in special prayer for their success. They had been taught by misfortune to feel an interest in this movement, and with that feeling he had come up hither, not to see what man might do, but what God might accomplish. He thought that there had been no Convocation since the Reformation like the present. He spoke of the low state of religion in Germany twenty years ago; but he was satisfied that Lutherans were becoming more Lutheran, the reformed more reformed, the papists more papish.

M. ADOLPHUS MONOD, Professor of Theology in Montauban, was next introduced. He spoke with much feeling of the severe and peculiar trials to which Christians in France are exposed, and most affectionately bespoke the prayers of Christians in their behalf.

A brief but interesting address from Professor LA HARPE, of Geneva, concluded the exercises of the evening.

On Thursday morning (Sir C. E. Smith in the chair) business was commenced by the proposal of the following resolution:—

"That this Conference, composed of professing Christians of many different denominations, all exercising the right of private judgment, and, through common infirmity, differing among themselves in the views they severally entertain on some points, both of Christian doctrine and ecclesiastical polity, and gathered together from many and remote parts of the world, for the purpose of promoting Christian union, rejoice in making their unanimous avowal of the glorious truth, that the Church of the living God, while it admits of growth, is one Church, never having lost, and being incapable of losing, its essential unity. Not, therefore, to create that unity, but to confess it, is the design of their assembling together. One in reality, they desire also, as far as they may be able to attain it, to be visibly one; and thus both, to realize in themselves, and to exhibit to others, that a living and everlasting union binds all true believers together in the fellowship of the Church of Christ, 'which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.'"

The resolution was carried unanimously, after some observations from Dr. WARDLAW, Dr. OLIN, and Mr. S. L. POMROY, of the United States, and M. VERNET, the pastor of the Reformed Consistory of Paris, who spoke in French. "The Alliance," said the latter speaker, "was much needed in France. Romanism was hard at work, and nothing would stand against it but devotion and unity."

The next resolution submitted for the adoption of the Conference was as follows:—

"That this Conference, while recognising the essential unity of the Christian church, feel constrained to deplore its existing divisions, and to express their deep sense of the sinfulness involved in the alienation of affection by which they have been attended, and of the manifold evils which have resulted therefrom; and to avow their solemn conviction of the necessity and duty of taking measures, in humble dependence on the Divine blessing, towards attaining a state of mind and feeling more in accordance with the word and spirit of Christ Jesus."

Mr. JOHN JORDAN, the Vicar of Enston, who, it will be remembered, was called to account by his diocesan for having presided at a Wesleyan Missionary meeting held in his own parish, moved this resolution, and remarked, that he had formerly had strong prejudice against the Dissenters, but this was removed by contact with men with whom he had been associated lately. His friends had had meetings at Enston preliminary to those held here, and were all agreed. They said, "There are no denominations in heaven, and there should be no separation on earth between us and our brethren."

The motion was seconded by Mr. FISCH, who said, he came from Lyons, and Lyons was more Roman than Rome herself. In a controversy recently held between himself and a Romanist priest, the chief argument against him was the division of Christ's followers.

The motion having been put and carried, Mr. NORMAN MACLEOD offered up a short prayer, and the Conference adjourned.

At the evening sitting, the first step for the formation of the proposed Alliance was taken by the proposal of the following resolution, which was moved by Dr. BUCHANAN, and seconded by Dr. DE WITT:—

"That, therefore, the members of this Conference are deeply convinced of the desirableness of forming a confederation, on the basis of great evangelical principles held in common by them, which may afford opportunity to members of the church of Christ of cultivating brotherly love, enjoying Christian intercourse, and promoting such other objects as they may hereafter agree to prosecute together; and they hereby proceed to form such a confederation, under the name of 'The Evangelical Alliance.'"

Sir CULLING EARDLEY SMITH proposed that the Conference should rise, and remain a few minutes in silence, before coming to a vote on the motion. This suggestion having been acted upon, the motion was put and was unanimously adopted.

The Doxology was then sung, and the members of the Conference exchanged cordial greetings by shaking hands with each other. The Conference then adjourned.

On Friday the first resolution brought under the notice of the Conference was a continuance of those adopted on Thursday, and was as follows:—

"That with a view, however, of furnishing the most satisfactory explanation, and guarding against misconception in regard to their design, and the means of its attainment, they deem it expedient explicitly to state as follows:—

"1. That the parties composing the Alliance shall be such persons only as hold and maintain what are usually understood to be evangelical views, in regard to the matters of doctrine understated, viz.:

"2. The unity of the Godhead, and the Trinity of persons therein.

"3. The utter depravity of human nature in consequence of the fall.

"4. The incarnation of the Son of God, his work of atonement for sinners of mankind, and his mediatorial intercession and reign.

"5. The justification of the sinner by faith.

"6. The work of the Holy Spirit in the conversion and sanctification of the sinner.

"7. The right and duty of private judgment in the interpretation of the Holy Scriptures.

"8. The Divine institution of the Christian ministry, and the

authority and perpetuity of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

"9. The immortality of the soul, the resurrection of the body, the judgment of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, with the eternal blessedness of the righteous, and the eternal punishment of the wicked."

The resolution was moved by Mr. E. BICKERSTETH, in a most masterly and highly spiritual speech, embracing all the points and advancing arguments in support of the several articles.

Dr. COX, of New York, seconded the motion, in a speech which filled the Conference with admiration. He laid great stress upon the introduction of the ninth article.

Dr. BYRTH, of Liverpool, moved, as an amendment, that the 8th and 9th articles be omitted. He was educated a Quaker, and who would say the belief in the eternity of punishment was essential to salvation; and it was an unfair inference to draw, that those who denied this doctrine asserted universal salvation. He objected to its insertion—not because he disbelieved the truths embraced in it, but for the reason that he was extremely unwilling to make any alteration in a basis which had been adopted after so much deliberation and prayer, and on the ground that it would inevitably exclude some who, in the judgment of charity, were real Christians. He concluded by remarking that the intimation which he had previously given, that, if this article was inserted, he should withdraw from the Alliance, was inconsiderate; a sentiment which was loudly applauded by all present.

Mr. J. H. HINTON seconded the amendment. He commenced by affirming his most cordial belief in the truths contained in the article, and referred those who questioned it to his published writings. But he considered its insertion was a departure from the original design of the confederation. It was not for the development of truth, but for the promotion of love, that they sought to be associated. If an experimental test could have been obtained, he should greatly have preferred it. But since this could not be secured, we had concluded to take those doctrinal truths the belief of which goes to constitute experimental religion. Acting on this principle, he would have none inserted but those the belief of which was absolutely essential to a change of heart, expunging everything else as useless and injurious. But if, instead of pursuing this course, they went on to introduce one truth and another, they would form themselves into a Tridentine council, a grand inquisitorial court, and divide instead of uniting Christians, creating new sects instead of annihilating old ones. Nor would their opinions and decisions be heeded by the world, if this course was pursued, while, in the meantime, the great objects of the association would be lost sight of and defeated. He concluded by intimating that, if the additional article was adopted, he should consider it his duty to withdraw from the organisation.

Mr. THOMAS BINNEY followed in a few remarks on the same side of the question. Since the desire and design was to unite the greatest number, it was exceedingly desirable that the basis should be the simplest possible. He cordially responded to the sentiment, that whomever Christ receives we must receive. But this article would exclude some. Some good men of his acquaintance did not believe in the eternal punishment of the wicked.

Mr. R. H. HERSHELL, Dr. CUNNINGHAM, Dr. MORISON, Rev. J. A. JAMES, Dr. WARDLAW, and Dr. BEECHER, from the United States, followed, with great force, urging the insertion of the additional Article. Some of them expressed their personal preference for the original basis; but in view of the expressed desire of numbers of the brethren for the additional Article and the existing state of things abroad, particularly in America, where it was affirmed such an Article was demanded, and would be introduced whether it was here or not, they cordially approved of its insertion.

Eventually the discussion was adjourned till the evening.

THE DINNER.—Again a very large number of foreigners and others sat down to the entertainment provided by the Conference, after which hymns were sung at the table in the French, German, Italian, and English languages, copies of some of which were requested for publication.

At the evening sitting the adjourned discussion was resumed by Dr. Beaumont, who supported the amendment, and was followed by

Dr. PATTON, of New York, in support of the additional article. Dr. Patton could not approach the subject but with a feeling of the profoundest awe. What subject was so awful as that of the eternal punishment of the wicked! He deprecated the idea, that it should be considered an American question. The doctrines embraced in the article were of universal interest, and of unspeakable importance. There might be just now a greater necessity for bearing testimony against Universalism and infidelity in the United States than there was in England. But he thought that these errors existed in their incipient and disguised forms in England also. He begged that the brethren would not consider that it was from any desire on the part of the American brethren to innovate upon and alter what had been so well done, that the additional article was proposed. It was done with reluctance, and not till after a meeting of clergymen had been held in New York previous to their departure, at which the subject was discussed, and a resolution was adopted for proposing the additional article to the Conference.

Mr. McAFEE, of Belfast, and the Hon. BAPTIST NOEL also supported its introduction, and the resolution approving of its insertion was ultimately adopted by a large majority.

The next topic of importance discussed, after having adopted the first seven articles of the basis, was on a motion by

Mr. J. H. HINTON, seconded by Dr. REED, to expunge the eighth article, which relates to the ministry and the sacraments.

Dr. REED urged an objection to it, that it would inevitably exclude numbers who were men of unquestionable and decided piety. The Quakers and Plymouth Brethren differed from other Christians on these points, while yet there were those among them, on both sides

of the Atlantic, who were eminent for their piety and benevolence. If the ninth article was objectionable, on the ground that it would exclude some real Christians, much more was the eighth. Perhaps they would not unite with us even if we expunged it; but that did not concern us. Our business was to open the door for their admission. The ordinances here referred to, are the initiatory rites in admission to the visible church, and those to whom they are administered must be professors of religion: and should we make the limits of the visible church the limits of this Alliance?

It was replied to these and kindred arguments, that the design of the Alliance was not to embrace every true Christian, but all those who, by a similarity of sentiment, could act together harmoniously.

Previously to the vote being taken, it was resolved to take the clauses of the motion *seriatim*. The preamble was accordingly read, on which a great number of amendments were moved, but eventually negatived, and the motion was carried.

The first and second articles were then adopted, as well as the third, after an amendment had been negatived. A succession of amendments, differing more in phraseology than in substance, were proposed upon the fourth article, but all negatived. The fifth article passed after some opposition. The sixth and seventh were adopted without discussion. The discussion on the eighth article was adjourned.

On the assembling of the Conference on Saturday morning the discussion on the amendment moved by Mr. J. H. Hinton, to the effect, "That the eighth article be omitted," was then resumed.

Dr. HOBBS said, he agreed with Dr. Reed in the views he had expressed last evening. The article was useless; for the seventh embraced all they needed. It was also indefinite. What was a Christian ministry? What was Christian baptism? These were points upon which they all differed.

Drs. MORISON, OLIN, and WILLIS, spoke in favour of the Article.

Mr. HINTON said, it must exclude many true Christians; and why should it be allowed to do so, since it was not essential to piety.

Mr. H. WOODHOUSE, of the Established Church, said, that on the decision of this question depended the adhesion of hundreds of members of the Church of England.

Mr. W. EWBANK said, that, if this Article excluded some, the seventh was more exclusive still; for it shut out thousands of Roman Catholics; and he believed many of them were Christians. The greatest errors of the Church had arisen from erroneous views respecting the sacraments. He would retain this Article as a testimony against Rome, by maintaining the two sacraments.

Mr. A. MONOD and Dr. BROWN having spoken, the Conference spent some minutes in silent prayer, and, after the substitution of the word "obligation" for the word "authority," the Article, amended in the following terms:—

"The Divine Institution of the Christian Ministry, and the obligation and perpetuity of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper."

was adopted.

Mr. THOMAS BINNEY moved, and Dr. BUNTING seconded:—

"That the General Arrangement Committee be requested, if possible, to make arrangements for holding a meeting on some evening during the Sessions of the Conference, for familiar intercourse"—which was carried.

Dr. SKINNER having engaged in prayer, the Conference adjourned to Monday, at ten.

THE COMMUNION SERVICE.—In compliance with the invitation of the Hon. B. W. NOEL, about 160 members of the Evangelical Alliance attended his Church, Bedford-row, on Sunday morning, at eight o'clock, and united in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Amongst these, were Sir Culling Smith, Drs. Byrth, Bunting, Beaumont, and Messrs. Mannering, Hinton, Cordeaux, T. Scales, J. Sutcliffe, E. N. Kirk, Bost, &c.

THE SERMONS.—Sermons were preached during the day by fourteen clergymen of the Establishment in various churches in London; by forty-four ministers, Baptist and Wesleyan, in Congregational churches; and by forty ministers, Congregationalist, Presbyterian, &c., in Wesleyan chapels; by twenty-six ministers of various denominations in Presbyterian chapels; by four in Wesleyan Association chapels; by three in German; one in French; and four in the chapels of the Bible Christians.

On Monday morning the Conference resumed the consideration of the resolution under discussion when they rose on Saturday. Several amendments on the ninth article were proposed.

Mr. R. S. HUTCHINSON, Canada, proposed to omit the phrase, "the immortality of the soul," which was negatived.

Dr. COX, Hackney, proposed to adhere to the language of Scripture in reference to the last clause; but the proposal was withdrawn.

The ninth and last resolution was eventually adopted.

#### ADDRESS OF CZERSKI, THE GERMAN REFORMER.

Our readers are already aware that Johannes Czerski, the celebrated German reformer, has arrived in this country. He came, to use his own language, "to visit the strong-hearted Christians of England, and obtain from them counsel and strength." Only two years ago he was a Romanist, a priest, an enthusiastic devotee at the shrine of Popish superstition and idolatry. Having subsequently renounced his errors, and sustained, in consequence, a course of severe persecution, he comes over to this country emphatically *the German reformer*. Partly by his instrumentality two hundred congregations have been led to relinquish their connexion with the Church of Rome; and, although some of them have been betrayed into the adoption of Rationalistic sentiments, there are at least twenty-one congregations still steadfast to evangelical Protestantism. It was thought that this celebrated reformer would have been one of the most prominent members of the Evangelical Alliance, but he has attended none of the meetings. Ru-



mours to his discredit have been circulated, through the agency of a Catholic priest, to the effect that his doctrine is not sound and his morals not pure; and these, having obtained credence in this country, have no doubt prevented his appearance at the meetings of the Conference.

He appeared for the first time in public on Sunday afternoon, to deliver an address on the way in which God had led him to adopt the principles of evangelical Protestantism. The service took place in Mr. Herschell's chapel, John-street, Edgeware-road. On our arrival we found the chapel filled to overflowing with an audience comprising a large number of ministers of various denominations, and many foreigners. Like many others present, we were obliged to content ourselves with standing in the aisle. Czerski occupied the centre pulpit, and on either side were Mr. R. Herschell, and M. La Harpe, of Geneva.

The service commenced by singing some verses of the hymn, "God moves in a mysterious way." Czerski then read a portion of the 32nd chapter of John, concluding at the 46th verse. He is a middle-aged man, thin, dark, and dressed in the true German costume. His face is most intelligent; and though the countenance is solemn and thoughtful, the eye is bright, and finely lighted up in the moment of excitement. The prayer he offered was beautifully simple, and though understanding nothing of English, he seemed to convey the idea of his words by his peculiarly appropriate action and manner. After prayer by Mr. Herschell,

CZERSKI stood forward, and addressed the assembly, Mr. Herschell giving a translation of every sentence. The substance of his discourse was a description of the former lamentable condition of Catholic Germany, sunk under the domination of priestcraft, and of his own conversion to Protestantism:—

If this system [speaking of Romanism] be Christianity, it is a curse, but this is not our Christianity. I found another. I went to the fountain—the Holy Scriptures of the truth of God. I searched them, and found the true testimony that is borne to Jesus Christ; and, through the grace and Spirit of God, I have come to the knowledge of his truth. I saw the words, "Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden," and, going, I found the Lord of glory. The truth made me free. Yes—free from the love of power—free from the bondage of Rome—free from my load of sins.

"There is none righteous." This truth I found, that we are justified only through the grace of God and the work of the Lord Jesus Christ. These truths gave me strength to liberate myself. It broke the fetters that bound me, and led me to take on the gentle yoke of Jesus. When I looked at the wall between me and my God, my Father and my Redeemer, I said, I may not rest till it be removed.

He then stated that 200 congregations had separated from Rome, but that a large number of them joined the infidels, and a conflict began between true Christianity and Pharisaism. [This reference is to John Ronge and his party, who are Rationalists in opinion.]

At the close of this deeply interesting address, Mr. Herschell offered prayer, and then made some remarks in reference to the Reformer; and spoke in strong terms of the great neglect evinced by the leaders of the Union movement to the claims that Czerski had upon their sympathy and fraternal recognition. "Czerski," said Mr. Herschell, "is a man persecuted to the very utmost in his own country, by his former friends and present enemies; and, alas! the same fell spirit of persecution seems to animate towards him the Christian Protestants of this country. Had I not taken him to my own house, there would have been no hand of welcome stretched out to greet him—no hospitable door open to him—no kind word and encouraging counsel offered; but, next Thursday, he would have left these shores, and returned to his own land, a broken-hearted and deeply-injured man."

A collection was made at the close of the meeting in aid of the Protestant cause in the South of France; Czerski having refused to receive any pecuniary aid from his friends in this country in carrying on the work in his own country.

We are glad to know that the cause of Czerski is at length being taken up by some men of rank and influence; and that measures will be forthwith adopted by his friends, which will issue, as we fully believe, in his honourable acquittal and brotherly recognition, and in the shame and confusion of his enemies.

**PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE OF ULSTER**—The *Banner of Ulster* contains a letter from the Moderator of Assembly, in which he states generally the result of an interview lately held with Lord John Russell, in regard to the erection of a Presbyterian college, and intimates that he has called the assembly to meet in Belfast on Wednesday, the 26th inst. [this day], for the purpose of taking the Premier's proposition into consideration. The amount of Lord John's reply to the deputation is, that the Government are willing to give an extended theological endowment, but not a separate grant for a second university, which might appear to be a rival to Queen's College. "Nothing," says Mr. Morgan, "could exceed the kind and courteous conduct of the Government."

**THE FREE CHURCH COMMISSION** has lately held its usual sitting at Edinburgh, but the proceedings have been of no particular importance, the greater portion of the sederunt being taken up with matters of discipline. In reference to the running of trains on the Sabbath, Dr. Candlish moved, that the Commission address a solemn and faithful remonstrance to the Directors of the North British Railway on the subject, which was seconded by Mr. Makgill Crichton, and carried by acclamation, with the addition, as suggested by Mr. Macnaughtan, to send a remonstrance to the Directors of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway. Mr. Tweedie gave an interim report on the Sustentation Fund, which he said was not so prosperous as its best friends would wish it. It stated that during the three months between the Assembly in May, 1845, and the 11th of August following, the sum received was £18,066 3s. 10d;

and for the corresponding period this year it only amounted to £16,822 1s. 9d., being a deficiency of £1,244 2s. 1d. On Thursday, Dr. Candlish addressed the Commission at great length on the Education Scheme, and particularly as to the Schoolmasters' Sustentation Fund. To that fund there had been contributed by thirty-six congregations in July, £129 8s. 7d., being an average of £3 11s. 10½d. from each, and assuming that 600 churches would contribute at the same rate, he calculated that upwards of £25,000 would be collected yearly to this scheme. The Doctor proceeded to urge that the Ministers' Sustentation Fund should not be allowed to decrease, on account of the additional call for school-masters, but, that on the contrary, it should greatly increase. Let no man, he said, believe that the miserable pittance of £120 a-year was by any means sufficient for the sustenance of the ministers of the Church. After alluding to the proposal to establish grammar and model schools in various parts of the country, the Doctor proceeded at much length to state his views on national education in the present state of religious feeling. He said he would not rashly join in any cry of "godless education," in regard to any scheme brought forward by the Government, as he considered that Government was at present placed in a position of a most difficult and embarrassing kind. Mr. Tweedie, after expressing his concurrence with what had fallen from Dr. Candlish, referred to the falling off in the sum collected this year for the Sustentation Fund for ministers, compared with last year, and that this was to be attributed to the exertions made that year, so as to be able to announce a large sum at the meeting of the Assembly at Inverness; that, in short, the screw had then been put on with success, but still that did not discourage the hope that there would be an increase in the contributions of the current year. The Commission then separated.

**PERSECUTION OF MR. SHORE.**—We are happy to hear that the large Free church at Exeter was completely filled on Sunday last, on the occasion of a collection being made in behalf of the Rev. Mr. Shore, to defray the expenses which he had already incurred in defending himself against the bishop's proceedings. The Rev. H. B. Bulteel preached in the morning and evening, and the Rev. G. Cowie in the afternoon, and the collections amounted to nearly sixty pounds. On Sunday next Mr. Bulteel preaches at the Free church at Ilfracombe, for the same object, and no doubt an appeal will be made to those of the inhabitants of our three towns who feel disposed to aid Mr. Shore against the oppressive measures of our diocesan, and to meet the heavy expenses of the late proceedings.—*Plymouth Journal*.

**MR. McNEIL'S SERMON ON PRINCE ALBERT'S VISIT TO LIVERPOOL.**—Mr. Hugh McNeil, the rector of St. Jude's, Liverpool, has just published a discourse delivered by him on the 2nd of August, entitled:—"EVERY EYE SHALL SEE HIM; or Prince Albert's Visit to Liverpool, used in illustration of the Second Coming of Christ!" It has been published by desire for the Liverpool Sailors' Home. Mr. McNeil thus begins his extraordinary discourse:—

We have just witnessed a stirring scene; and, to all who will take the trouble of reflecting seriously, a very instructive one. A promise was held out to our great town that our eyes should behold the Prince; and what were the consequences? Preparations of every description, eager, animated, costly; scaffoldings and stands erected; balconies strengthened; the ordinary occupations of life suspended; countless multitudes congregated; trades, professions, associations with their appropriate emblems; civic authorities bearing the badges of state; generals and admirals exhibiting the insignia of war; consecrated ambassadors of the Gospel of Peace; the bridegroom from his chamber; the bride out of her closet; old men and maidens, young men and children—all on tiptoe, with outstretched necks and eager eyes, to see the Prince in his beauty; the Prince, the assessor, and, on this occasion, the manifestor of royalty. It was a scene well calculated to illustrate and impress the great revealed truth, that the kingly office upon earth is at once an ordinance and an image of the authority and majesty of God.

He proceeds:—

When I saw the universal movement; when I heard on every side the bustle of expectation; when I overheard on the right hand and on the left the bursting apostrophe, "He is coming!" "He is here!" I felt deeply what it seems to have been the apostle's great object to impress upon the Christian Church, with reference to the SECOND COMING OF CHRIST. Behold, He cometh, go ye out to meet Him. Every eye shall see Him.

After this fashion (says *Jerrold's Newspaper*) the youth of England are to be educated from the pulpit. In this way are they to be taught to associate the Son of God coming in glory to redeem mankind, with the starved and gartered husband of a queen—a sinful, erring thing of pampered clay? On one hand the incarnation of God himself; on the other, a poor human sophistication. Divine love coupled with the earthiest conventionality. The Godhead from heaven, and a mere piece of human ceremony—a bit of bipped pomp—from Buckingham-palace! . . . Such sermons as these are so much dry rot in the rafters of the Established Church.

Mr. Newman is about to pay a long visit to Rome, with the view of completing his preparation for the priesthood.—*Morning Post*.

**SECESSION FROM THE CHURCH.**—Dr. Duke, of Hastings, with his lady, and all the members of his family, has, during the last few days, conformed to the Roman Catholic church.—*Morning Post*.

The sailing of the steam-ship *Great Britain* from Liverpool to New York, has been postponed till the 22nd September. On her last outward voyage the steamer touched the ground during the fog; and the detention is occasioned by the directors having resolved to have her bottom thoroughly examined before permitting the vessel to go to sea.

**A GAOL TO LET.**—There is not a single prisoner in any place of confinement in Lynn. Thirty-six years ago there was a like vacuity of gaols in that borough.

At the Somerset assizes William Cattarell was sentenced to seven years' transportation, for stealing a cheque. The *Bath Journal* says that soon after his apprehension he became entitled to a bequest of £5,000.

## THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

### IRISH CONSTABULARY BILL.

On Wednesday, Mr. LABOUCHERE moved the second reading of the Irish Constabulary Bill; and, at the request of Mr. THOMAS DUNCOMBE, who doubted its "constitutional" character, he gave a short explanation of its object. One object of the bill was to redeem the pledge given when the Corn Bill was introduced, that the expense of the Irish constabulary force should be transferred from the counties to the consolidated fund. The propriety of this arrangement had become still more obvious from the recent determination to place upon the counties the burden of providing employment for the people. The bill also added to the Lord Lieutenant's powers of increasing the reserved force of the Irish constabulary; but whether that reserved force consisted of 200 men or 400 men involved no constitutional principle whatever.

Mr. THOMAS DUNCOMBE was still of opinion that the measure was unconstitutional. It was not 200 additional men, but 2,000 or 50,000 men that might be sent into any particular district by the Lord Lieutenant. It was unconstitutional that the Lord Lieutenant should have the power of increasing a part of the standing army to any extent he thought proper, and of putting his hand into the public purse to support it.

After a short discussion, Mr. M'DONNELL moved the adjournment of the debate. Mr. DUNCOMBE seconded the amendment, but no division took place, and the bill was read a second time.

### RAILWAY BOARD.

On Wednesday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved for leave to introduce a bill for the appointment of a Railway Board. He stated the main provisions of the measure. The Board would consist of not more than five Commissioners, one of whom should be the President. The President of the Board would be paid for his services, and would be a member of one of the two Houses of Parliament, and connected with the Government so far as to make him removable if any change of Administration took place. The other Commissioners were to be made up of two paid members and two unpaid members of the Board. The two paid Commissioners would not have seats in Parliament; and the object in appointing them was, that there should be at least one Commissioner in either House of Parliament, to answer any questions that might be put with respect to the acts of the Board. The two unpaid members would also be members of the Government; of course receiving emolument in that capacity, but not as members of the Railway Board. The result, therefore, would be, that in both Houses of Parliament there would be a member of the Board competent to answer questions, and to take upon him the conduct of railway business in either House. It was further proposed by the bill, to enable the Commissioners, with the sanction of the Treasury, to transfer to their own office the clerks and other subordinate officers at present employed in the department of the Board of Trade; also to transfer to them the whole of the powers and duties which now devolve upon the Railway department of the Board of Trade. It was intended to give the new Railway Board what the Board of Trade had not at present—the power of enforcing the execution of the terms upon which bills were granted to railway companies. Upon the new Board would be imposed the duty of seeing that all existing railway companies strictly comply with the provisions of the act under which they are incorporated. It was further proposed to enable the Board to carry on any inquiry which might be referred to them by either House of Parliament. There was one subject which, though not part of this bill, he thought it would be desirable to revise during the recess—he meant the Standing Orders of that House relating to railways. One thing in particular he thought should be considered—whether a longer time should not be allowed to elapse between the first proposal to construct a railway and the bringing the bill before the consideration of Parliament, so as to afford time to make such inquiries as might be deemed necessary during the interval.

In reply to a question from Mr. MORRISON, as to whether the Board would have power to send for papers and records, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that an answer would be given at the next stage of the bill.

Leave was given, and the bill was read a first time, and a second time on Thursday. On Friday the House went into committee on the bill. Considerable discussion arose as to the propriety and expediency of proceeding with so important a measure as that, establishing an additional department of the Government, at so late a period of the session. The feeling, however, was in favour of going on with the measure; and the bill passed through Committee. As to salaries, the Chief Commissioner is to have £2,000, and the Junior paid Commissioners, £1,500 each.

### LAW APPOINTMENTS OF THE LATE MINISTRY.

In the postscript of our last number we gave a summary of the debate in the House of Commons, on the previous day, arising from the charge of Lord George Bentinck against the late Ministry, relative to the appointment of Mr. Pollock to the office of Chief Justice of Bombay, and in which he imputed to Lord Lyndhurst and the Earl of Ripon a barter of patronage to serve their political friends.

On Wednesday Lord GEORGE BENTINCK availed himself of the opportunity afforded by reading the order of the day for the second reading of the Insolvent Debtors Act Amendment Bill to make an *amende honorable* to Lord Lyndhurst and Lord Ripon. In connexion with the appointment of Mr. Pollock to the Chief-justiceship of Bombay, he had been guilty of insinuating that there had been a barter of patronage between Lord Lyndhurst and Lord Ripon, in reference to the living of Nocton. He had made this assertion on the authority of a gentleman who occupied a high position in his profession, and who held a close connexion with the living in question. Last night, however, on looking over the "Clergy List," he discovered, to his amazement and perfect horror, that the living of Nocton was not in the gift of the Lord Chancellor at all. He thought it, therefore, his duty, in the face of the House and the country,



to retract that charge as publicly as he had made it. He offered, in the most full and ample manner, the best amends in his power. If his statement had hurt the feelings of the noble lords for four-and-twenty hours, he could assure them they had ample compensation in the deep humiliation he felt at having made an unjust accusation against them.\*

On Thursday, in the House of Peers, Lord LYNTHURST gave his explanation of all the circumstances. It was distinctly asserted that the appointment of Sir David Pollock to the Chief Justiceship of Bombay, and the removal of Mr. Charles Phillips to London, with the appointment of Mr. Perry to fill his place, were the result of a barter of patronage between himself and the Earl of Ripon. Early in the spring of the present year, the then President of the Board of Control asked him to name members of the legal profession, from whom one might be selected to fill the office of Chief Justice of Bombay. Six or seven names were accordingly sent in, amongst whom was the name of Sir David Pollock, who was every way qualified for the office. But the Earl of Ripon had not relied alone on his judgment, for he had applied elsewhere for an opinion. The selection of Sir David Pollock received the sanction of the Crown on the 10th of June, and the vacancy thus caused in the Insolvent Court was filled up by the appointment of Mr. Charles Phillips, who had applied both to himself and Sir James Graham to be removed from Liverpool, where he had discharged his duties with so much acumen that not one of his decisions had ever been appealed against, but who, from domestic and private causes, wished to leave that town. The vacancy caused by the removal of Mr. Phillips was filled up by the appointment of his own private secretary (Mr. Perry), a gentleman whose undoubted qualifications were known to many of their lordships, and for whose promotion to some permanent office he felt himself bound by justice and gratitude. When Mr. Phillips resigned, Mr. Holroyd was sent down to discharge the duties of the office, but he left Liverpool the day after the arrival of Mr. Perry; and yet Lord George Bentinck had on this circumstance founded a charge that he had appointed a man so unfit, that Mr. Holroyd was sent to accompany him in order to instruct him as to the nature of the duties. The levity of this man, who thus scattered his attacks, indifferent how they might operate, or whom they might injure, required this detail. As to the living of Nocton, Lord George Bentinck had shown a carelessness most culpable. He had made his charge on anonymous authority, and he had retracted it on erroneous grounds. The living of Nocton was in the gift of the Lord Chancellor. When the incumbent died he had received letters from Lord and Lady Ripon, urging peculiar claims to the nomination, arising from the contiguity of their residence, the large sums which they had expended in repairing the church, building the school-house, and maintaining the schoolmaster, as well as the fact that the practical disposal of the living had hitherto not been exercised by the patron. The noble and learned lord read the correspondence at length, from which it appeared that, though the Lord Chancellor objected to accede to the nomination, lest it might affect the interests of the Crown, an opinion being prevalent that the Lord Chancellor was bound to attend to the nomination of the landed proprietor, he assented in this instance, owing to the special circumstances of the case. He then launched out in a violent philippic against Lord George Bentinck:—

The noble lord does not state of his own knowledge that this charge was well-founded, but he makes it on the authority of some individual whom he does not name, and who does not state the grounds upon which he came to the conclusion upon which he made the charge. Is it possible, I ask, that any man in a public situation pretending to direct the counsels of the nation, pretending to direct the counsels of the party to which he belongs, can bring forward an accusation of this unfounded description against any individual? It is utterly condemnatory of his wisdom—it shows he is totally unfit for such a position—it destroys his character as a public man—it is not only weak, silly, and low, but its weakness, silliness, and lowness are only equalled by its folly and baseness. . . . I have now gone through all the charges which were made against me and my noble friend, and I ask, is there any ground for such accusations [cheers]? I confess, my lords, that I am at a loss to account for the course pursued by the noble lord. I do not know to what principle I may refer it. Does it accord with his sense of justice to bring charges of this description against public men, without, in the first instance, requiring an explanation of the circumstances, and without giving any previous notice of his intention to make such a charge? Is that the conduct of a discreet public man [hear, hear]? I do not know how to justify it, unless that, perhaps, the noble lord thinks that everything is fair in party tactics, and that he is therefore justified in endeavouring to blacken and traduce the characters of his political opponents by every means in his power. Perhaps he acted on that principle, or perhaps his earlier associations and habits [laughter] have had the effect of inducing him to form so low an opinion of the principles on which mankind acts, that he believes every man, in all the transactions of public life, is actuated by a base, selfish, and sordid motive [cheers]. In looking at the charges which he made, I cannot attribute his conduct to any other principle. It has been said, and said justly, that to be praised by a person who is himself the subject of praise, adds tenfold to the eulogy [hear, hear]; and the same principle applies to calumny, for the best antidote against calumny is often found in the character of the calumniator [cheers and laughter]. With respect to the noble lord's slander, if it is not, as the poet says, sharp as the point of the sword, it is not from want of inclination, but from want of power. If his tongue does not "out-venom all the worms of Nile," it is not from want of the will, but from want of ability to instil the poison. A distinguished writer has this allusion with regard to persons unjustly accused:—"The sting of the wasp may fester and inflame long after the venomous—I should have said vexatious—insect has left its life and its poison in the wound," and this is the same with regard to

such attacks as that which I have been directing the attention of your lordships to. Though such attacks may be refuted, they are not harmless; they have sometimes a lasting public effect; for the public remember the attack, although they do not always remember the defence. To me it is most humiliating, at the close of my public life, and at the close, I may almost say, of my natural life, to be called on to repel accusations of this kind; but I know your lordships will bear with me on an occasion like the present ["Hear, hear," and loud cheers]; and feeling confident that your lordships will form a correct opinion, and in that confidence I throw myself upon the judgment of your lordships and the country [loud cheers].

In the House of Commons on Friday evening, Lord GEORGE BENTINCK made his rejoinder against Lord LYNTHURST. He was charged with "levity" in making his retraction on Wednesday night: that charge came ill from Lord LYNTHURST, who was, in the House of Lords, the leading member of the Government appointing the Ecclesiastical Commission, the authors of the mistake in the *Clergy List* on which Lord George had based his retraction. Lord George went over Lord LYNTHURST's explanation in detail; giving it a new colouring in the process of recital, and contending that it still left the affair one of grave suspicion. Putting all the facts together, he maintained that their coincidence proved a friendly exchange of patronage between the two ministers. He denied that there was a single instance in which an Indian judge had been superseded on his conditional resignation, as Sir Henry Roper had been. Mr. Perry had been nineteen years out of practice, and did not possess the public confidence. Altogether, this complicated transaction, he repeated, was a "nefarious job." He was not ashamed of his "early associates and habits." It was among the objects of his pride that he was still one of the stewards of the Jockey Club. For eighteen years that he had sat in Parliament he had never received one shilling of the public money; had never asked any Minister for employment or patronage; and his early associates had been Mr. Canning and Lord Stanley. It could not be retorted that Lord LYNTHURST's calumnies are "coarse:" his sarcasm is classical, his weapon polished; and while he uses his rapier with the strength of a giant, Lord George confessed that he himself is obliged to wield the broadsword and the bayonet. But when Lord LYNTHURST brought charges of selfishness, sordidness, and rapacity, he ought to have carried his memory back to Friday the 10th of July. Lord George had disclaimed adherence to the late Government and had attacked it before that day; yet on that day Lord LYNTHURST condescended to send a messenger to Lord George, a great merchant in the city of London, accompanied by the Lord Chancellor's own secretary. The gentleman called at nine o'clock in the morning; and a proposition was made to Lord George, that he should join a minority, represented by Lord LYNTHURST to exist in the late Cabinet, on the subject of the Sugar-duties.

I do not know whether Lord LYNTHURST and the three colleagues who he intimated agreed with him were to serve with me or under me; but this I know, that had I been ambitious, had it been my object only to obtain power, the opportunity was offered me; whilst the breath which had announced the royal assent to the passing of the Corn Bill was scarcely cold, the proposition was made to me that I should join with those of the late Government who, while they had supported, had condemned the measures of that Government [great cheering]. And it was proposed by Lord LYNTHURST that he should personally wait upon that selfish, that sordid, that base individual who is now addressing you" [cheers].

Lord George declined the honour of the visit, and referred Lord LYNTHURST to Lord Stanley; intimating, perhaps in strong language, the manner in which his feelings revolted at such a coalition. Perhaps the frankness of his language had not been forgiven. He now hoped he had proved that he could not have been the base, sordid, and selfish individual that Lord LYNTHURST had represented him [loud cheers].

Mr. STUART WORTLEY expressed surprise that Lord George had omitted to notice a communication from Mr. Perry.

Lord GEORGE BENTINCK said, he had forgotten it!—he had not thought it of so much importance—had not supposed any necessity to notice it after Lord LYNTHURST's explanation of the point. Mr. Commissioner HOROYD had not been sent to Liverpool to "dry-nurse" Mr. Perry; but he had gone in the interval before Mr. Perry's arrival, no doubt to look up the arrears.

Mr. STUART WORTLEY would not touch the rest of Lord George's statement: those whom it concerned were well able to defend themselves.

Lord LYNTHURST made a further statement in the House of Lords on Monday, in reference to the charge of Lord George Bentinck, that on the 10th of July last he had sent him a special message, and wished to have a personal interview, for the presumed object of effecting a coalition between the two branches of the disrupted Conservative party, in order to defeat Ministers on the question of the Sugar-duties. It being known that Lord LYNTHURST had retired permanently into private life, and was therefore no longer a candidate for office, he thought that without suspicion or imputation he might exert his personal influence to close the breaches which the repeal of the corn law had caused, and thus endeavour to re-construct the Conservative party. He made his object known to Sir Robert Peel, Sir James Graham, and others; and so little of concealment was there in the course which he had pursued, that, after trying in several quarters, and discovering the bitterness of feeling and personal hostility which still existed, he stated to Lord Clarendon that he had abandoned his self-allotted task as hopeless [the Earl of Clarendon gave an assenting "Hear, hear."]. Not being personally acquainted with Lord George Bentinck, he availed himself of the voluntary service of a mutual friend, to ask whether he would see him, with a view to composing the differences of the party. The answer he received was a reference to Lord Stanley, with whom Lord George stated he was in cordial co-operation. In thus fruitlessly endeavouring to heal the divisions which existed amongst those formerly politically united, he acted without reference to any particular measure, and the gentleman who had been the medium of communication confirmed this, in a written statement which the noble and learned lord read. Yet

upon this was founded a charge that he wished to get up a factious opposition to the Sugar Duties Bill, in the discussing and voting on which he had taken no part. With reference to the allegation that the Chief Justiceship of Bombay was forced on Sir David Pollock, in order to make room for Mr. Phillips and Mr. Perry, he had received a communication from the Chief Baron of the Exchequer (Sir Frederick Pollock) authorising him to state that the office of Chief Justice of Bombay was not pressed on his brother, either by himself or any one else.

In the House of Lords, on Monday, Lord LYNTHURST read a letter which he had received from Sir Robert Peel, wishing him to correct an erroneous statement in the *Standard*, imputing to him an expression of a desire for the reconstruction of the Conservative party. As the letter was occasioned by a misapprehension, which was corrected by the reports in all the other newspapers, he read it to their lordships as a confirmation of the statement he had made on Saturday. The following is an extract from the late Premier's letter:—

My (Sir Robert Peel's) recollection of what passed is this. You (Lord LYNTHURST) wrote a note to me expressing a wish for an interview, which took place on the same day. At that interview you informed me of a fact of which I was not previously aware, namely, that you had been in communication with some members of the late government, and of the party which generally supported it, with the view of healing the animosities of, and reconstructing, the Conservative party. That before you went further you had resolved to speak to me, and that the part which you were taking was a disinterested one, inasmuch as your return to office was out of the question. My answer was, that I must decline being any party to the proceedings to which you referred. I said that return to office was as little in my contemplation as in yours, and that I was not prepared to enter into any party combination with that view. I felt it incumbent upon me, under the circumstances, to leave to those with whom I had been previously connected in political life, entire liberty to judge for themselves with respect to the formation of any new party connexion. I do not remember, and have not here the means of ascertaining, on what day our conversation took place; but I believe the above to be a perfectly correct account of it.

#### SMALL DEBTS BILL.

On Thursday, when the House was about to go into committee on the Small Debts Bill,

Lord GEORGE BENTINCK desired more information than had yet been given as to the amount of patronage the bill would place in the hands of the Government, and the expense it would entail on the country:—

The measure did not originate with the present Government; it fell into their hands by inheritance. Since entering the House, he had been told by the Solicitor-general that the number of new courts would not exceed sixty-five: well, sixty-five judges at £1,200 each, would amount to no less than £78,000 a year; sixty-five clerks to these judges, at £600 a year each, would be £39,000; making between them £117,000. Many of the officers were to receive fees in addition to their salaries; and a large portion of these fees would have to be paid to the prejudice of fees which at present go into the consolidated fund. For anything which he could discover to the contrary, these judges would have the power of acting as masters in Chancery and masters in Lunacy, and would be paid for their services by fees in addition to their salaries, to the detriment of the fee fund in Chancery. There were at this moment, he believed, four hundred and fifty courts; and, if these were abolished, he should like to know what the compensation to be paid to the parties deprived of office would amount to? He did not hesitate to say that the patronage which this bill would throw into the hands of Government would be sufficient to purchase one-half of the boroughs of England.

Sir GEORGE GREY corrected some of Lord George Bentinck's assumptions. The bill had undergone several corrections since it reached the hands of the present Government. The principles and details were substantially the same as the bill introduced in 1841 by the Government of which Sir George Grey was a member. The present bill had received careful consideration both from the Government and the country; it having been largely circulated in those districts which were likely to be most affected by it. A strong opinion had been expressed, both in and out of the House, in favour of proceeding with the measure. It should, also, be remembered that several local bills had been stopped on the distinct assurance that the present bill was to be proceeded with. It was quite impossible to say what the charge on the consolidated fund would be, because it was proposed that moderate fees should be paid in all proceedings. It was provided that, after a time, the Queen, in Council, should have power to change payment by fees into payment by salary. The assumption that each judge was to have £1,200 a year was a misapprehension. If the amount received in fees was found to be excessive, the scale would be changed. A maximum of salary was fixed, namely £1,200; but it by no means followed, as the noble lord seemed to suppose, that all the judges would receive that amount. It would be unfair to deprive the public of the benefit of a measure of admitted utility simply because it put patronage in the hands of the Government. That patronage would be exercised by a Minister who was responsible to Parliament.

Mr. MANNERS SUTTON did not approve of some of the changes introduced into the bill by the present Government. The late Government proposed to give the first nomination to the Lord Lieutenants; reserving, however, to itself the power of filling up the subsequent vacancies. The judges of the existing courts were to be the first judges of the new courts. He deemed this a better arrangement than placing all the power in the hands of the Lord Chancellor, and incurring the expense of compensation by appointing new judges.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said, that so far as the existing judges were found qualified, the Lord Chancellor had stated that they should be considered as having a paramount claim. It was supposed that the business before the new courts would be so large as to afford ample compensation for judges and clerks.

The House went into Committee; and various alterations were proposed.

Mr. ROMILLY was of opinion that the judges under this bill ought not to be allowed to practise at all as barristers. Lord JOHN RUSSELL assented to this opinion, to the extent that the barrister ought not to be allowed to practise in the district for which he was judge: words to that effect should be introduced.

\* The *Times* corrects this correction. "Lord George has unquestionably been misled; but it is in his retraction, not in his attack—in his eagerness to do justice, not in his anxiety to expose delinquency. The living of Nocton is a Chancellor's living, and it was presented to a friend of Lord Ripon's. The statement in the 'Clergy List' of 1845 is an error, and, as such, is corrected in the number for the present year. . . . We suspect that the error in the 'Clergy List' of preceding years may be traced to the report of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners of 1831, which, by a strange blunder, represents the living of Nocton to be in the gift of a certain Honourable G. Hobart."—*Times*, Thursday morning.



An amendment proposed by Mr. WAKLEY, that attorneys should be eligible for judges, was negatived by 53 to 16; and Colonel THOMAS WOOD's, that the judges should not practise as barristers at all, was negatived by 57 to 12.

Fifteen clauses were agreed to, and the Chairman reported progress.

#### THE POST OFFICE.

On Saturday, in the House of Commons, Mr. THOMAS DUNCOMBE drew attention to the petition of Thomas Mitchell, formerly a sub-sorter in the General Post-office, but afterwards appointed a general letter carrier, in mitigation of his punishment. It was alleged that his dismissal was owing to his having given evidence of various irregularities on the part of Mr. Kelly, in getting up the "Post-office Directory." He moved an address to the Crown for the appointment of a commission to inquire into the administration of the post-office, into the complaint of Thomas Mitchell, and into the causes of the dissatisfaction prevailing among the officers of the establishment; and, also, whether the "Post-office Directory," a private speculation, ought to be carried on by the aid of public servants.

Mr. PROTHMER seconded the motion.

Mr. J. PARKER observed that there could be no doubt that the "Post-office Directory," and the transactions connected with it, had led to the disagreeable feelings which at present existed in that establishment; but it was the fixed determination of the present Postmaster-general (Lord Clanricarde) to inquire into the matter, and to put the establishment upon a better footing. Lord Clanricarde, in dismissing Mitchell, had acted upon a report regularly sent to him, and had not deprived him of his situation in consequence of the evidence that he had given. If it should turn out that Mitchell had not been guilty of the conduct imputed to him, he would be reinstated in his situation. Under these circumstances he recommended Mr. Duncombe to withdraw his notice.

Mr. HUME complained that Mr. Rowland Hill had not been employed by the Post-office to carry out his own plan.

Lord J. RUSSELL observed that the present motion proposed so wide a range of inquiry that it was impossible to accede to it. A plan was in course of arrangement by which the ground of complaint respecting the "Post-office Directory" would be removed. He thought that Mr. Rowland Hill's plan had not been carried out sufficiently, and that there was still room for further improvement. After assuring Mr. Duncombe that the attention of the Government would continue to be directed to this subject, he expressed a hope that it would be left at present to the hands of the Government.

After a few observations from Mr. WARBURTON, Mr. WAKLEY, and Mr. SHEIL,

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE withdrew his motion, upon the understanding that the decision of the Postmaster-general should undergo further discussion.

#### MEXICO AND THE UNITED STATES.

Lord GEORGE BENTINCK, on Monday, drew attention to the present state of British interests in Mexico, consequent upon the war between that country and the United States. Our exports to Mexico were of the annual value of £500,000. There were sixty-five mining and other companies in that country, carried on by the British capital to the extent of £10,000,000. The public debt of Mexico to Great Britain was £10,200,000. We were, therefore, largely interested in whatever affected that country. The noble lord then gave a sketch of all the proceedings which had led to the annexation of Texas to the United States, and the present war with Mexico. Some ten or fifteen years ago, when land speculation was rife in Texas, immigrants from the United States obtained from the Texan Government, for a consideration of 20,000 dollars, a tract of country of 400 squares. The sovereign country, Mexico, refused to sanction this proceeding, and imprisoned the President and some of the members of the Texan Legislature. Out of this originated the first declaration of independence, which was signed by ninety individuals, eighty-eight of whom were in the interest of the United States. In the war which ensued, the small Texan army, consisting almost exclusively of American immigrants, was successful against the Mexicans; a second declaration of independence was issued in 1835, and ultimately, after ten years of vicissitude and struggle, Texas was annexed to the United States. When Mexico originally declared herself independent of Spain, it was provided that the slave trade should be abolished, and that slavery itself should cease after a given period. But now that Texas had become a part of the United States, a vast impetus has been, and must be given, to the internal traffic in slaves by the importation of American-bred negroes. And as the annexation of Texas was an electioneering test in the Presidential contest during 1845, so would the annexation of Mexico to be in the year 1848. The people of the United States were seized with a frenzy—a lust of annexation; their ambitious desires were neither controlled nor concealed. A favourite toast was, "May the stars that bespangle the flag of America be so thick that no room will be left for the stripes." Already the United States were in possession of Matamoras, the key of central Mexico. The supply of that country with the manufactures of the United States was one of their great objects. They proclaimed their intention of stretching their territory from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and at present, they were looking with longing eyes on the haven of San Francisco, said to be one of the finest in the world. It was of great importance to British interests that we should check the increasing usurpations of the United States. Sir Robert Peel has boasted that an offer of mediation had been made; and the Mexican Association had been assured, by the Earl of Aberdeen, that measures would be taken to prevent interruption and injury to British commerce. Yet the *Washington Union*, the official organ, denied that any offer of mediation had been made. He asked if any such offer had been made of a mediation by Great Britain, between the United States and Mexico; and, if so, what had been the result?

Lord PALMERSTON declined following Lord George Bentinck into all those past transactions, which were

now matters of history. Certainly no great war could be carried on between two independent states without affecting the commercial interests of other countries; and he therefore regarded with pleasure the recent progress and practical application of those principles of free commerce, the tendency of which was to promote friendly feeling between nations, and to lessen the chances of war. The probability of an annexation of Mexico to the United States was remote. Texas was thinly settled, but Mexico was inhabited by a population of from eight to ten millions of people, whose language, religion, and habits, were wholly distinct from those of the United States. An offer of mediation was unquestionably made by the late Government; but, as it was in the shape rather of a suggestion than a proposition, the Government of the United States, then engaged in settling the question of Oregon, did not deem it necessary to notice it. Having recently had the satisfaction of exchanging with the late American Minister, Mr. McLane (whose character and conduct he eulogised), the ratifications of the convention for settling the Oregon territory, he had instructed Mr. Pakenham to renew the offer of mediation, in a form that shall require an answer from the United States; and it depended upon the answer whether or not this country would be in a position to tender her services for the purpose of terminating the war between the hostile countries.

Mr. D'ISRAELI expressed his regret at the vague statement of Lord Palmerston, which was not calculated to afford consolation to those British merchants whose interests were at stake. He called on the Government to pursue a vigorous and determined policy, as otherwise our North American colonies would be subjected to attacks similar to those now made on Mexico.

Mr. BERNAL expressed his satisfaction at the speech of Lord Palmerston, and contended that we ought to wait and see what answer would be returned by the United States to his last communication.

Mr. WAKLEY said he considered the speech of Lord Palmerston to be the speech of a peaceful Minister. He was delighted to hear that the noble lord was anxious for the restoration of peace between the United States and Mexico, and hoped that he would not change his policy.

Here the discussion dropped.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**EDUCATION IN WALES.**—In answer to Mr. WILLIAMS, on Monday night, Sir GEORGE GREY said that the attention of the Committee of Education of the Privy Council had been directed to the subject of the promotion of education in Wales, and an inquiry would be instituted during the recess.

**RELATIONS WITH BRAZIL.**—Mr. HUME asked what were the nature of our relations with Brazil, as, owing to the uncertainty which prevailed, British property in that country was in a state of great insecurity. Lord PALMERSTON admitted that at present our relations with Brazil were in a most unsatisfactory state. The recent changes, however, which had been made in the sugar duties would facilitate future negotiation, and he assured the House that no effort on his part would be wanting to promote British interests, and to secure a thorough understanding and friendly feeling between the two countries.

**MORTALITY IN THE METROPOLIS.**—The deaths registered in the week ending August 15th were 967, being equal to the average of five years, and sixty-nine above the average of five summers. The deaths from diarrhoea in the week were 149, being fewer than in either of the three previous weeks, but were larger than the average of the corresponding week of previous years. The mean temperature of the week was 61 deg. 8 min., 1 deg. 3 min. less than the mean temperature of the corresponding week for twenty-five years. The number of births in the week was 1,363: males, 691; females, 672.

**DEATH FROM POISONOUS BERRIES.**—At the Thames Police-court on Friday, John Hillard, a vendor of herbs, who collects them for herbalists, was brought before Mr. Ballantine, on remand, charged with selling poisonous berries in various parts of the metropolis. Mrs. Parker, widow of the owner of the Veteran beer-shop, in Whitechapel, proved that the prisoner sold her a pint of berries (under the name of "nettle-berries," ) on Saturday week, which she made into a pie, of which she and her late husband and child partook. The two last had since died in the hospital. The witness herself remains in a weak condition, having suffered much. Three other witnesses gave testimony as to having purchased some of the berries the same day from the prisoner, and having been severely ill in consequence. Evidence was also given to show that the berries were those of the *atropa belladonna*, or deadly nightshade, a fatal poison. The prisoner, in his defence, said he bought the berries of a man dressed in a velvet coat, near the Elephant and Castle, and he was not aware of their properties at the time he sold them. Mr. Ballantine could not credit the prisoner's statement, for he was in the habit of collecting herbs and berries, and must have known how to distinguish poisonous berries from others. He should remand him for a week. The inquiry into the case by the coroner's jury has been adjourned.

**ABUNDANCE OF FISH.**—We understand that many of the rivers in the northern parts of the kingdom are this year swarming with the finny race, and that in some of the Scotch fisheries most extensive captures have been made; but we much doubt that the following extraordinary draught, made on Thursday last, at the fishery of Mr. Russell, of Braystones, has yet been surpassed. Mr. Russell's fishermen swept their net over about two hundred yards of the river Eden; when, to their astonishment, they hauled out no fewer than 659 fish, consisting of sea-trout, whittings, &c., averaging three-quarters of a pound each, and weighing in the aggregate upwards of thirty-five stone! So great was the weight of the fish, that, in order to prevent the net from bursting, the fishermen were obliged to pick them out of it as they approached the land. They say that they do not remember such a draught for the last fifty years.—*Cumberland Paquet.*

#### WORLD'S TEMPERANCE CONVENTION.

The final meeting of this body took place on Monday evening, at Exeter-hall.

Dr. BEECHER, the American patriarch of the cause, took the chair at six o'clock, and opened the proceedings briefly by referring to the first publication of his sermons on the subject in the United States, and the progress and prospects of the temperance movement.

Mr. HENRY CLAPP (United States) dwelt on the iniquities intemperance exhibited daily in all the streets of London. Acts of domestic tragedy, worse than the murder at Guildhall, or the military tragedy at Hounslow, were every day and hour perpetrated by the gin-shops of London; and they were aggravated by being done for gain; yet they excited little comparative emotion. What was the recent fire in his own country (depressing as it was) compared to the frightful conflagration, consuming body and soul, which they were met to extinguish?

Mr. E. ANDREWS, minister (Philadelphia), urged that it was their duty to stem the tide of death, moral and physical, which flowed from the gin-shop and the still [hear, hear]. The influence of the women of England, to which he confidently appealed, would, if duly exerted, finally banish the evil demon of intemperance from the polluted surface of society [hear, hear].

Mr. THOMAS BRAINARD, minister (Philadelphia), in addressing the meeting, dwelt on the family identification of the Anglo-Saxon race in England and America, denounced war, and advocated one only conflict (to be ultimately crowned with victory), the battle of teetotalism with drunkenness—the reformation of the world by the suffusion of temperance. War "slew its thousands," but intemperance "its tens of thousands." But they had one consolation. Their opponents were short-lived, the retailers of the alcoholic poison (5,000 in London) were short-lived; and, while that is the case, intemperance may be expected to die a natural death [applause]. But at present the mischief was gigantic. The retailers of strong drink (600,000 in number) were responsible for the evils they produced, among which he exemplified the worst cases of murder which he had witnessed. They might not intend this mischief; but they had common sense, and it was their duty to inquire, and not to continue supplying the stimulant to vice and crime [cheers]—betraying humanity to immeasurable evils, without malice it was true, but for the sake of paltry lucre—like Judas, for the thirty pieces of silver. The crime was aggravated by the motive [cheers].

Mr. H. OSBORN, minister (Rhode Island), was the next speaker, and dwelt with high consideration on the social reformation effected by Father Mathew [hear]—and on the natural alliance of England and America. One thing in this country he regretted to see. Much as he respected the English clergy, he never partook of their hospitality without seeing the cup of intoxication on their tables. He never saw it on the tables of the American clergy; and he would say it with all respect, that if they sought (as was the case sometimes) admission, they would, while they drank wine, be rejected by the American church [hear, hear] from such communion.

Mr. G. A. SMITH argued that the education of the working classes was useless, unless it were a temperance education. Had he a seat in the House of Commons, he would address to his brother legislators this dilemma:—If the traffic in intoxicating liquor be good for the people, let it be free; if bad, let it be prohibited [hear].

Dr. BEECHER rejoiced that in quitting this country he left the good cause in the ascendant, although there was little probability, at his time of life, of again meeting a temperance convention in England. He should go home with the impression that England and America were one nation [cheers]. The latter had much to keep in universal suffrage; the former something in that particular to gain. But the time was fast approaching when every burden would be loosed; every chain broken; and "the people," in one free self-governing brotherhood, "possess the earth" [hear].

Mr. JOHN ADAMS, minister (of Massachusetts), said, that every retail shop of ardent spirits had been put down in Duke's County, Massachusetts, and not one was to be found in that district [hear, hear]. May England imitate that example!

Mr. J. MARSH, minister, referring to the numerous statues in London, said he would propose a new one; a statue of strong drinks with its 60,000 annual victims in *bas relief* below, in various stages of stupor, *delirium tremens*, and madness. He held in his hand a printed paper, setting forth the grievances of the licensed victuallers; stating that they paid the Government eleven millions annually, covering the expense of the army, navy, and police, and claiming the title of benefactors. Benefactors! If there was ever a hardened criminal, it was the national seller of a proved and known poison.

Mr. W. PATTERSON, and Mr. J. HINES, ministers, the latter from the United States, addressed the meeting to a similar effect.

Dr. LOVELL, who succeeded Dr. Beecher in the chair, terminated the proceedings by stating the object of this meeting was to close the series of measures emanating from the "World's Temperance Convention," and take leave of their American friends.

Mr. J. MARSH, on behalf of his American brethren, returned thanks for the kindness and hospitality with which they have been received [cheers], and prayed to God the meeting might knit together the bonds of eternal peace between the two greatest countries in the world [cheers].

Mr. CASSELL moved a vote of thanks to the American delegates, which was seconded by Mr. POWELL.

The vote was carried unanimously, with three times three, and the meeting then separated.

**SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.**—We are enabled to state, and we do so with great satisfaction, that orders have been sent from Madrid to withdraw the Spanish troops from the frontiers. Thus an end is put to the very menacing state of affairs between Spain and Portugal.—*Chronicle.*



**THE MURDER AT THE GUILDHALL COFFEE HOUSE.**—At the Central Criminal Court on Saturday, John Smith, aged thirty-two, cook, was indicted for the wilful murder of Susan Tollday, by cutting her throat with a knife, on the 15th of August, in the parish of St. Lawrence, Jewry. The prisoner would not have had the assistance of counsel, but for the kind and humane interference of the sheriffs, who instructed Mr. Clarkson to watch the case in his behalf, and Mr. Wire, the under-sheriff, was in communication with the learned counsel during the trial. Carr, the boots at the Guildhall Coffee-house, proved that the prisoner was engaged in that establishment as cook, and that the deceased was kitchen maid. On Saturday, the 15th instant, about half-past twelve o'clock, he heard a scream, and soon after saw the deceased come from the kitchen with her throat cut, and she fell down and died almost immediately. The prisoner immediately said, "I have done it. I wish you to give me into custody." He was about to take the prisoner past the place where the dead body was lying, but he said in an earnest manner, "Not that way! not that way!" and he was then taken away by a constable through the back entrance. In cross-examination the witness said that the prisoner was originally an apprentice to the kitchen, and was afterwards appointed head-cook, and he had been sixteen or seventeen years in Mr. Walters's service, and had always conducted himself well. He likewise said that after the deceased came into the service, which was about twelve months back, there was a good deal of quarrelling in the kitchen, which had not been the case before. The deceased had a knife in her hand at the time. When he first saw the prisoner after the deceased was wounded, he said she had drove him to do it. Phillips, the waiter, gave similar testimony. One or two other witnesses were then examined, and they merely deposed to the same facts. In cross-examination by Mr. Clarkson, it was stated that the deceased had been in the habit of using very foul language to the prisoner, and that she had upon one occasion slapped his face, and at another time had bitten him. It was also stated, that about half an hour before the fatal occurrence the prisoner and the deceased had had a quarrel about a charwoman, and the deceased said he did not act like a man. The case for the prosecution having closed, Mr. Clarkson addressed the jury for the prisoner. Mr. Baron Platt having summed up, the jury retired, and returned into court in about an hour, finding the prisoner guilty, but at the same time recommended him to the merciful consideration of the court, on account of the prisoner's good character, and a belief that he had received a great deal of provocation from the deceased. The learned judge said that he felt that his duty would not allow him, under the circumstances, to give any effect to the recommendation of the jury, and he then proceeded to pass the sentence of death in the usual form, and not holding out the slightest hope of any commutation of punishment. The prisoner, who, during the trial, leaned upon the front of the dock apparently completely absorbed in grief, listened to the sentence, and walked away from the dock bar without betraying any emotion. His mind appeared quite made up as to the result of the trial.

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.**—The Council of the University of London have given notice that the examination for the degree of bachelor of arts for the present year will commence on Monday, October 26, the subjects of examination being mathematics and natural philosophy, animal physiology, logic, and moral philosophy, history, classics, French, and German. The examination for honours is appointed to commence on Tuesday, November 3rd, the subjects being the same, but more extended; and in addition chemistry, animal physiology, with vegetable physiology and shrubbery botany. There will also be an examination in the Hebrew text of the Old Testament, the Greek text of the New Testament, and scripture history. The classical subjects for the matriculation examination in 1847 will be Xenophon's *Cyropædia*, book 3, and the Odes of Horace, book 2. Those for the examination for bachelor of arts in 1847 will be Homer's *Iliad*, books 1 to 6, and selections from Cicero's Orations.

**RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.**—By a parliamentary return it appears, that of accidents on railways, from the 1st of January last to the 20th of July, seventy-three persons were killed and eighty-four injured.

**STATISTICS OF SIGHT-SEEING.**—By a return published, it appears that in 1843, 604,318 persons visited the British Museum; 660,529 in 1844; and 763,831 in 1845. For the National Gallery the return is 456,105 in 1843; 681,845 in 1844; and 696,245 in 1845. The pictures purchased for that institution cost £114,804 16s.; for twenty-seven of which £57,804 16s. was paid.

## POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, August 26th.

### PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

In the House of Lords, last night, the Earl of Ripon made a very vehement defence of his conduct with respect to the presentation to the living of Nocton, and declared that he had been most unjustly aspersed by the imputations cast on him.

The Marquis of Lansdowne then moved that the House should go into committee on the bill for facilitating the employment of the poor in Ireland; and a discussion ensued, in which Lord Montague recapitulated the misery of Ireland, and confessed his inability to see his way out of the present crisis. After some further debate, the bill passed through committee, and was ordered to be read a third time to-day.

Several other bills were also forwarded a stage, and the House adjourned.

**THE POOR-LAW COMMISSIONERS.**—In the House of Commons, Mr. Hume moved a series of resolutions condemnatory of the conduct of the Poor-law commissioners, in their administration of the Poor-law, as exhibited in the evidence before the Andover committee. But though he proposed, he did not mean to press his resolutions. Sir George Grey expressed himself as somewhat taken by surprise, seeing that he had received a

private intimation from Mr. Hume, that in consequence of the lateness of the session, and the fact that the evidence before the Andover committee was not yet printed, he did not mean to propose his motion. The Government would direct their attention to the subject. After a few words from Mr. Williams, Mr. Hume withdrew his resolutions.

Lord John Russell had a notice of motion for the adjournment of the House till Thursday, but as there would be a Royal Commission to-morrow (this day), he moved that the House shall meet this day at a quarter to two.

Mr. Etwall intimated, that early next session he will bring the evidence taken before the Andover committee under the consideration of the House.

**DISTRESS IN IRELAND.**—Mr. R. D. Browne called attention to the present alarming condition of the county of Mayo. It contained between 300,000 and 400,000 inhabitants, who were amongst the poorest peasantry in Europe. The potato crop was utterly gone, and of 42,000 destitute people, there were 22,000 employed on public works, leaving 20,000 without any resource whatever. Mr. Labouchere said that the Government were deeply impressed with the fact of the alarming nature of the extent of the destitution in Ireland. Their attention would be earnestly directed to the subject, and they would adapt their efforts to the exigencies of particular localities, though it would be injudicious to enter into any specification of the measures contemplated. But he assured the House that nothing would be neglected on the part of the Government.

The Small Debts Act, and other measures still remaining for consideration, were read a third time and passed, thus clearing the business list.

**THE WELLINGTON STATUE.**—On Mr. Borthwick's moving for a copy of the report of the commissioners appointed to inquire into the salubrity of Buckingham-palace, some remarks were again made on the absurdity of placing the equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington for three weeks on the arch at Hyde-park corner. Lord Morpeth was sorry that no member of the sub-committee was present to fight the battle of the statue. He was not very anxious to become the champion of it himself; but as it was resolved that the statue should be put up experimentally he did not wish to say anything that would derogate from the experiment.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned.

**TAHITI.**—The British reader, and the common-sense reader of all countries, says the *Times* of this morning, will be surprised to learn that Tahiti has become once more the leading and soul-stirring topic of the French fourth estate. The apron-men of Rome were never more intent on a mutiny than the gentlemen of the French press on an European conflagration, or, which would perhaps suit them as well, upon increasing the sale of their respective journals by appeals to the basest passions of the multitude, seeking to excite once more the anti-English cry of 1841. The *Moniteur* publishes the following intelligence from Tahiti:—

The Government has received despatches from the Governor of the French establishments in Oceania, dated the 14th of April last. Captain Bruat announces that the natives, retired into the entrenched camps of Papenoo and Punavia, attacked the block-house of Hapape and the lines of Papeti. Those attacks, which took place on the 19th and 22nd of March, were vigorously and promptly repulsed. Our troops and the allied natives made *sorties*, which were attended with satisfactory results. A detachment of seventy-five men of the Phaeton steamer inflicted severe injury on a party of natives entrenched on another point of the coast. M. Bruat adds that our establishments enjoy perfect security.

**THE QUEEN OF SPAIN'S MARRIAGE.**—Late on the evening of the 17th, a meeting was held at the Queen's Palace, Madrid, which was attended by the Ministers, several Prelates, the Presidents of the two Chambers of the Cortes, the Duke de Baylen, and the Councillors of State. The object of the meeting was to deliberate on the choice of a consort for her Majesty; and three candidates, namely, the Count de Trapani, Don Francisco d'Assis, and Prince Leopold of Saxe Coburg, were brought on the tapis. The first had no supporters; the second had a majority of the meeting; and the third had a considerable number; but ultimately the meeting adjourned till the 22nd, at the suggestion of Queen Christina, who wished for further time for consideration. One account of this meeting adds, as a report, that the question of the Queen's marriage with Don Francisco is so nearly settled that the marriage may be expected to take place in a few days.—*Chronicle*.

THE CORDEN TRIBUTE now amounts to upwards of £66,800.

**DESTRUCTION OF THE POTATO CROP.**—In nearly all the English counties the crop is almost hopeless. The most sanguine persons do not estimate that a half, or perhaps a third, will be dug sound. The accounts from the continent are of a similar character. Wherever the potato is cultivated it has failed. From the most southern districts of Europe to the Pentland Frith, the same reports of ruin in this particular product are given. Where the disease was unknown last year it has appeared this season with the utmost virulence. It is now admitted, on all hands, that the potato crop is gone, for this year, at least, in Ireland. In the cottage gardens in Scotland the whole of the potatoes are said to be entirely gone, and in the fields the stalks have prematurely decayed and become black.

**GOVERNMENT PATRONAGE.**—It is generally reported that Mr. Morgan John O'Connell, one of the members for the county of Kerry, and nephew to the hon. and learned member for Cork, has accepted the appointment of Poor-law Commissioner for Ireland, a vacancy in the department, it is added, having been created by the removal of Mr. Twisleton, who succeeds to one of the vacant English commissionerships.

**MR. O'CONNELL AND THE "NATION."**—The attempt to ban the weekly organ has been a false move—a positive failure. The *Cork Reporter* (a high repeal autho-

rity) publishes an instructive report of a meeting of the burgesses of St. Patrick's-road, in that city, held for the purpose of discussing the late proceedings at Conciliation-hall, and the propriety of putting into force the edict against the *Nation*, as ordered by Mr. O'Connell. Nothing could be more intelligible than the tone of the speakers. The proposition to accept some newspaper, enjoying the confidence of the "Liberator," in lieu of the old favourite, was literally scouted, and the two resolutions approving of the *Nation* were carried with only two dissentients. In Limerick and Kilkenny similar efforts have been made on behalf of the prescribed paper.

At the meeting of the Repeal Association, on Monday, Mr. O'Connell expressed himself in still stronger language with respect to the *Nation*. He is evidently ill at ease on the subject. The remainder of his speech was on old topics. Rent for the week, £138.

**HER MAJESTY'S MARINE EXCURSION.**—Yesterday the Queen, Prince Albert, family and Court, returned to Osborn House in the royal yachts Victoria, and Albert, and Fairy, accompanied by the Black Eagle and Garland steamers, after a week's excursion along the south coast, and visit to Weymouth, Portland, and Plymouth. They encountered a good deal of rough weather, especially in Portland-roads. At Plymouth the authorities of the town came on board the yacht to pay their respects. The Queen received them on deck, and conversed with them some time. Her Majesty was looking exceedingly well, but much flushed; she wore a puce morning dress, had on a clear book-muslin bonnet, and carried a green parasol. Prince Albert looked pale, and not very well; he appeared to have suffered considerably from his rough encounter with the sea. The Royal children were on deck, and appeared to take considerable interest in the gay and busy scene around them.

**COLLISION ON THE BRIGHTON AND HASTINGS RAILWAY.**—On Monday afternoon a collision occurred on this line, at a place called Pevensey Sluices, about two miles beyond the Pevensey Station. About one o'clock, an engine and a train of ballast waggons were upon the "siding," parallel with the railway, but the engineer had neglected to see that the points were turned off. When the half-past twelve o'clock train from Brighton came up, the engine-driver, seeing the points improperly placed, endeavoured to stop the train, but was unable to do so, as it was going at the rate of twenty miles an hour, and it came into violent collision with the standing train in the siding. The engines came in contact, the buffer beams of both were much broken, the tender of the passenger train was thrown off the line, and the engine driver and stoker were both thrown out. The driver suffered some contusions in the ribs, and the stoker was much scalded and burnt. None of the carriages were thrown off the line, but several of the passengers were bruised and hurt, and one gentleman, an inhabitant of Hastings, a first-class passenger, had his leg fractured. Fortunately, however, there was a surgeon in the train, Mr. H. R. Walton, of Fitzroy-square, who promptly attended the unfortunate gentleman, had him removed to an inn in the neighbourhood, and at once set the limb, and he was removed to Hastings by a special train the same night.

CZERSKI is to deliver an address on the origin and progress of the German Reformation, at the Hanover-square-rooms, on Friday next. Lord Ashley will preside. Speaking of Czarski's exclusion from the Alliance, the *Morning Advertiser* says:—"Czarski is a modern Luther, and goes much farther than the monk of Worms did in the commencement of his career as a Reformer; and if he be disowned and excluded by the Evangelical Alliance, it follows of necessity, that had the same body existed in Luther's time, that great man would have been accosted with the expression, 'Stand by, for I am holier than thou.'"

**EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.**—A public meeting of the friends of this association was held yesterday, in the large room, Exeter-hall, every portion of which was completely full. The Chevalier Bunsen, the Hon. Baptist Noel, Dr. Beecher (from the United States), Professor Tholuck (of the College of Halle), and numerous ministers of every denomination of Protestantism, and from various parts of Europe and America, were present on the platform. Sir Culling Eardley Smith took the chair, and, from his speeches, and those of the gentlemen who followed him, it appeared that the great object of the meeting was the acknowledgment of what was termed "the unity of the Christian Church." A history of the Evangelical Alliance was entered into, and its great era was declared to be the conference which took place at Liverpool. It had been convened at the invitation of some gentlemen in Scotland, and members of seven churches of England, Wales, and Ireland, had, through delegates, met their Scottish brethren on that occasion. Several "topics" were dilated upon, this principle being involved in all of them, viz., that the minor differences which existed between the different sects of Christians ought not to prevent them uniting in one great alliance.

**ONE OF THE ALLIED ARMY.**—The immense lion that is on the top of the mound on the field of the battle of Waterloo, is shortly to be removed, and in its stead is to be placed a monster cat. This is due to the British army, whose bravery, according to its Commander-in-Chief, is only the result of flogging—consequently, if there had been no cat the battle of Waterloo would never have been won.—*Punch*.

Three or four strawberry leaves, eaten green, are said to be an immediate remedy for dysentery, summer complaint, &c.

### CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour.
English ....	980	230	50			
Scotch .....						
Irish .....			700			
Foreign ....		2130	16820			

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\* All communications to the Editor should be addressed to the office, 3, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from "Consistency," "A Voluntary Teetotaler," "Philo," and "J. S.," but a press of matter prevents our making use of any of them.

## The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1846.

#### SUMMARY.

It is high time for Parliament to be up, and off to the moors; for its attention has, of late, been pretty equally divided between bitter personal altercations, and the passing of extensive measures, almost without discussion, putting an immense mass of new patronage into the hands of Government. Lord George Bentinck, the true type of a thorough Protectionist, not content with the official death of his opponents, goes out of his way to mangle their reputation. It appears that Sir H. Roper, Chief Justice of Bombay, had intimated his wish to resign, and had fixed upon the 2nd of November for carrying that wish into effect, as the earliest day at which he would be entitled to a pension for seven years' service. The new appointment was in the hands of Lord Ripon, who, in consequence of information by the officers of the colonial department, that a reversionary grant to take effect from the second of November was illegal, and, pressed by time on account of the difficulties of Ministers, made his appointment at once. The arrangement was as follows:—Mr. D. Pollock, Commissioner in the Insolvent Debtors' Court, was to proceed to Bombay; Mr. Phillips, Commissioner in the Bankruptcy Court at Liverpool, was to succeed Mr. Pollock; and Mr. Perry, private secretary of Lord Lyndhurst, was to go to Liverpool, *vice* Mr. Phillips. Upon this Lord Bentinck founded his charge, and intimated that there had been an exchange of patronage between Lord Ripon and the Lord Chancellor, and that the living of Nocton had been bartered for the Chief Justiceship of Bombay. The next night, however, he retracted the charge on ground which turned out to be erroneous. Lord Lyndhurst gave a plausible account of all the transactions, and concluded by breaking Lord George Bentinck on the wheel. The ex-president of the Jockey Club returned to the charge, and darkly insinuated that, on the 10th of July, the Lord Chancellor had sent him a special messenger with a view of inducing him to join some of the members of the late Cabinet, himself amongst the number, in overthrowing the Whig Government on the Sugar Duties Bill. To this charge the Lord Chancellor replied at some length. He denied *in toto* that he ever entertained objects similar to those imputed to him by Lord George. He professed that he never again intended burdening himself with office; and that, as his intention was well known, he thought he could disinterestedly employ his influence in healing the dissensions which had rent the Conservative party in twain. He had mentioned this project to several noble and honourable individuals. He had never made a secret of it; and it was with a view to sound Lord George Bentinck on this subject that the messenger had been sent. So far as this particular case is concerned, Lord Lyndhurst would seem to have the advantage. It affords us, nevertheless, a glimpse at the interior working of the patronage system; and it is humbling to think that this mighty empire is governed by a class of men who, the moment they fall out, ascribe, without the smallest hesitation, to each other practices which could hardly be imputed, except they had been rendered previously probable by prevailing custom.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has introduced a bill for the constitution of a new railway board, in lieu of the railway department of the Board of Trade. It is an improvement upon its predecessor: but, like most Whig measures, improvement directed with a trembling hand. The new board is to consist of not more than five commissioners, one of whom is to be president. Two of them are to be paid; two, who are to have seats in Parliament, are to be unpaid; and the president is to be connected with the Government, and to be removable if any change of administration takes place. The whole powers and duties of the railway department of the Board are to be transferred to the new board, and also authority to enforce the execution of the terms upon which bills are granted to railway companies. The bill seemed to meet the approval of the few members of Parliament, who yet remain to transact the business of the country, and there is little doubt that it will pass into law. The Small Debts Bill, a general measure, extending the principle of local courts to all parts of the country, and involving an immense amount of patronage, has also, with a mere apology for discussion, received the sanction of the House of Commons. Several other bills, too numerous to mention, partly bequeathed to the present Government by their predecessors in office, and partly originated by themselves, have been forwarded through their successive stages without remark.

Speaking has been principally limited to foreign affairs. Mr. Hume rates Lord Palmerston for allowing a violation of the treaty of Vienna by the occupation of Cracow, and Lord Palmerston replies in a tone calculated to excite some alarm in the Courts of the three powers who concurred in setting the independence of Cracow at naught. Lord George Bentinck urges more active interference for the protection of Mexico against the designs of the United States; and the Foreign Secretary, after vindicating what had been done by the last Government, declares that he has offered to mediate between the two conflicting parties in a shape which must produce some definite reply. On the whole, Lord Palmerston has evinced peaceful tendencies; and, happily, considers that free commercial intercourse between the different countries of the earth is the best guarantee for the maintenance of pacific relations.

The Andover union committee have given in their report. It blames the administration of the Poor-law, and the conduct of the three Commissioners; and yet it is difficult to see how, in the light of that law, their proceedings can be fairly condemned. Technically speaking, they have gone beyond the act—and, in some respects, have misinterpreted its provisions—but, in the main, they have given a fair embodiment of its spirit. It is plain that the present system cannot hold up under the pressure of the recent disclosures; but it is not at all plain what, supposing it to be abandoned, is to be adopted in its stead. The whole question appears to us to be surrounded by difficulties which must always attend the working out of a false principle.

From Ireland we have the same sad accounts of the continued spread of the potato disease. Political agitation excites but little attention in the face of so severe a social calamity; whilst the policy of the Whig Government, in carrying out the wishes of Mr. O'Connell, has served not a little to allay Irish discontent. Amongst the boons actually bestowed may be noticed the restoration of the dismissed repeal magistrates to the commission of the peace, an act of simple justice, but calculated to give general satisfaction. The Repeal party, or, in other words, "Young Ireland," does not, however, altogether slumber. Symptoms are here and there exhibited of no equivocal kind, that the proscribed *Nation* newspaper shares largely in the sympathies of the people. We learn that, in many places, the Repealers, even those who still regard O'Connell as their leader, refuse, at all hazards, to exclude it from their reading rooms. This fact may appear insignificant in itself, but it proves that there is a strong under-current adverse to the supremacy of the Liberator, which, under the skilful management of an O'Brien, and imbued with the earnest spirit of the *Nation*, may become a formidable obstacle in the future government of the country. Mere promises will do nothing to disarm such troublesome opposition as this; comprehensive and radical reforms can alone, by removing the original basis of their complaints, effect it.

The foreign news of the week is of a singularly chequered character. The gratifying reception of Mr. Cobden in Paris, the honours paid to himself and the great peaceful principle he represents, by men of rank and influence; the admirable, judicious, and telling manner in which he advocated commercial reform, and the evident interest his simple earnestness, and the views he enforced, seem to have awaked throughout France—are perhaps the most striking indications we have yet seen of the rapid advance of that period when war shall cease, not simply because it is undesirable, but because it is impossible—when, as Mr. Cobden said, "the barrier which separates men from their brethren should be subverted, and nations should unite in that spirit of concord which presided in that meeting—wherein they forgot whether they were French or English—to remember only that they were men." How sad is the reverse of the picture! From two other quarters of the globe we have the dismal tidings of the progress of that extermination which would seem to be the lot of all aboriginal races in coming in contact with civilised nations. In Cape Colony, the Kaffirs have been defeated with great slaughter, and the enraged settlers are pursuing them into their own territory, which, as being rich and fertile, will doubtless soon be annexed to the British possessions in that quarter. It is very difficult to ascertain correctly the original aggressor; but there is little doubt that the Kaffirs did not molest the colony without provocation, probably arising from the harshness and brutality of the Boers on the frontier. The fact that all their repeated efforts at conciliation were disregarded by the colonial authorities, proves them to be much misrepresented. Be this as it may, however, the Cape Government is bent on vengeance—a promising missionary field has been broken up—and hatred and animosity fostered amongst the African aborigines against their conquerors, which will, we fear, be productive of incessant annoyance for many years to come. If we turn to Tahiti, the aspect of affairs is still more deplorable—the conduct of the cowardly assailant utterly indefensible. Hostilities between the French and natives have again broken out; but the former have obtained but little advantage by their sanguinary policy. Their situation on the island is insecure—their supply of provisions very inadequate. The natives still retain possession of a portion of the island, and evince no intention of submitting to French domination. Meanwhile, the French Admiral has adopted a characteristic mode of revenge, by destroying the principal village of a neighbouring

island! Surely our neighbours, greedy as they are of glory, must be satiated by this time with the renown which French valour has acquired throughout the world by its triumphs over the inoffensive Tahitians. But perhaps they intend to commence in the South Seas the new Algerian policy—a war of extermination.

#### EVERY MAN HIS OWN LAWYER.

THIS, if we may credit the argument of some of its advocates, is to be one of the happy results of state education. A blissful prospect, we must needs confess—"a consummation devoutly to be wished!" Is there an imagination so damp and uninflamnable as to resist the kindling power of so large a promise? "Every man his own lawyer!" Some concern for the gentlemen of the legal profession qualifies, of course, the joys of kind-hearted anticipation; for what is sport to the rest of the community will be death to them. But, after every deduction has been made on this account, there will yet remain enough, and more than enough, to excite a tumultuous pleasure in the philanthropic bosom. Think of it, you who stand in the way of a national system of education, and relax the pertinacity of your adherence to a theory! Think of the man who delves with the spade, or handles the bill, or follows the plough, or sits at the loom, penetrating with keen glance the dark intricacies of law, and carrying about with him, in his own head, a clear epitome of that immense mass of legal lore which it now requires a long lifetime of special study to master! Think of ragged urchins learned in precedents—of bricklayers and blacksmiths citing conflicting statutes—of printers' boys able to discriminate, with unerring accuracy, the precise bounds of what is libellous! Think of the confident security with which men of all grades will hereafter walk through the mazy labyrinth of life, fully instructed in all that law requires of them, and able to pay allegiance with the same certainty as they can measure physical commodities! Aye, "Think of that, Master Brooks!"

Are we trifling? Let, then, the blame rest upon those who heedlessly press into their service an argument which either folds up all this within itself, or is, vulgarly speaking, "a bag of moonshine." Every inhabitant of these realms, we are told, is presumed to know the law of the land, and is amenable to its penalties for every infraction of it. It is the duty of the State, which claims this allegiance, and which unhesitatingly inflicts punishment upon convicted transgression, to furnish the instruction necessary to its being rendered. The wise parent first teaches his children the duties they owe to him, and then chastises wilful disobedience. The just government is bound by obligations as cogent to educate in a knowledge of its will those whom afterwards it will punish for opposing it. The administrator of correction ought also to be the fountain of due information. Those whom the State may coerce, the State ought also to teach; for unavoidable ignorance dissolves responsibility, and no man can be made to suffer justly on account of discrepancies between his conduct and laws with which it is impossible he should ever have made acquaintance.

Is it even so? Then, we much fear that, with all the facilities which Government professes to command, the work devolving upon it will be found to be impracticable. The position taken up by the friends of State education with such apparent gravity, yet with such real thoughtlessness, is too ridiculous for serious argument, and is rather to be carried by raillery than by reason. Why, now, how much better instructed in the laws which he is bound to obey, will any youth be on leaving the State school than he was before he entered it? Are "Blackstone's Commentaries" to be taken as a text-book? Will examinations be held in statutory learning? How else will the scholar be informed in the kind of knowledge which the case requires? The law of our land is proverbially bottomless. No length of line can fathom it. There are holes and pits in it below the profoundest depths to which judges have dived. You may spend fifty years in poring over this embodiment of the State's will, and yet be ruined at last on account of defective or mistaken views. And yet, the small fry of our working population, able at most to spend seven years at school, are to acquire besides reading, writing, and arithmetic, besides a smattering of history, an idea of geography, and a glance at natural philosophy, such an acquaintance with the laws by which they are to be governed as will render their breach of them inexcusable, and the State's punishment of such breach not only expedient but just. Now, does any man living, we ask, expect that this, or anything approaching to it, will be done? Nay! does he suppose that any instruction in law will be imparted to government scholars? Does he imagine that British statutes will constitute one branch of study even in normal and model schools? And if not, how preposterous it is to stun us with reasons why such and such things ought to be done, when it is plain that the State neither would do them if it could, nor could do them if it would!

But it will perhaps be replied, You strain the argument far beyond the meaning of those who employ it. It is hardly necessary, in order to discharge the duties of a good subject, that a man should be instructed in statutory law. That which is essential to quiet citizenship—those moral obligations which, when duly recognised, form men to justice, peace, contentment, and loyalty—are to be found in the common, or unwritten law of the land. These it is requisite to the well-being of society that every one of its members under-



stand and know—and this rudimentary knowledge the State can and ought to impart.

Should the State do this, we shrewdly suspect its scholars might address it, in reference to this department of its work, and say, "Thank ye for nothing!" Why, who is ignorant of the primary rules of social morality? Is not one of them,—and that, so far as society is concerned, a main one,—expressed in a distich redolent of the low grade from which it comes?—

"Him as prigs wot isn't his'n  
When he's cotech'd must go to pris'n."

Or to accommodate to our argument a quotation from a more classical authority, we should say—

"There needs no ghost, my lord, come from the grave,  
To tell us this."

"Thou shalt not kill"—"Thou shalt not steal"—we hardly require a magnificent and costly apparatus of Government schools to impress these and such like precepts on the young conscience. The argument looks pretty enough in words—but really, if this is all that is meant by it, we think the country may yet contrive to get on without State education, and subjects may pick up elsewhere than in Government seminaries, a sufficient practical knowledge of their rights and duties.

To this it may be answered, that bald preceptive direction is not all that is needed. Some explanation of social relationships, some exposition of the grounds of morality, some cultivation, in short, of the susceptibilities of conscience, is required. We admit it—and we found upon our admission this broad assertion, that it is impossible to teach morality to any purpose, without trenching upon both politics and religion. The schoolmaster who is to train the moral sentiment must be to some extent both politician and divine. Now this duty we object most decidedly to devolve upon civil rulers—for in the one direction, our love of liberty, and in the other, our love of Christianity, forbids the delegation to it of a trust so delicate.

The argument, then, is nought. Either it means everything which its terms denote, in which case Government is charged with a duty which is impracticable—or it means scarcely anything, in which case Government aid is clearly superfluous—or it means what it does not express, in which case Government interference is dangerous. Taken any way, the inference meant to be deduced from the premises, fall to pieces the moment they are handled. Though Government should have its schools in every district, it would be as Quixotic to expect to see, in the next generation, as in this, "*Every man his own lawyer*."

#### COMPULSORY MORALITY.

MANY of our readers will be aware that we inserted in our last number a letter from Mr. F. J. Thompson, of Bridgewater, which, occasioned by some remarks of ours on the "World's Temperance Convention," offered as "*materials for thought*" a certain chain of propositions, leading to the conclusion—which, however, was not expressed—that we are justified in aiming at a suppression of intemperate habits by a legal prohibition of the sale of alcoholic drinks. We have no personal objection to the discussion of the question as it is there stated—but we are far from thinking that it would be satisfactory to any party. One "infringement of liberty" may be shown to include in it no more of the spirit of tyranny than another—nay! this trespasser upon individual rights and obligations, like a kangaroo, may carry that, and several others, its legitimate offspring, in its pouch. But one wrong principle cannot be held to establish another; and therefore, inasmuch as, argued upon so questionable a basis, the matter cannot be settled, we shall take leave to treat of it on altogether other grounds; and admitting, for argument sake merely, the right of rate-payers to defend themselves against a profligate expenditure of their money, we shall point out the inexpediency, so far at least as social morality is concerned, of attempting to enforce that right in favour of total abstinence.

We regard with some alarm the strong tendency of this age to a practical distrust of the superior efficacy of moral influences. America has introduced into the field of philanthropy "elements" which inspired wisdom has characterised as "beggarly," and is insensibly dragging us back to notions of virtue which we can only describe as essentially barbarous. To do things by force—to break down individual independence, whether of judgment or of choice—to frown men into self-denial—to use custom, opinion, law, anything, in fact, felt to be stronger and more direct than conviction and persuasion, in determining moral conduct—to jam the reluctant between a noisy public sentiment on the one hand and a statutory prohibition on the other, and to drive them, thus guarded, in the line of temperance and discretion—is more fashionable on the other side of the Atlantic than, we hope, it will ever prove here. It is a *lazy* way of seeking human progress. It is the substitution of mechanism for soul—command for invitation—law for gospel. It is fit only for society in its rude and boisterous childhood. Necessity may sometimes compel the adoption of it; but nothing but ignorance, impatience, or mistrust, will think of returning to it after the discovery of "a more excellent way."

We fear the abettors of this compulsory method of making nations virtuous, have never fairly studied the philosophy of their own principles, and that they are little disposed to consult the laws of their own nature. What progress is ever made in the way of social reformation, save when every step of it is brought about by successful appeals to the under-

standing and the will? Who does not know that what is seemingly gained by ruder agencies, is gained only for the time that the agencies operate, and is invariably followed by lamentable reaction? Is it not with nations as with individuals? Where restraint is most constantly resorted to as a means to deter from vice, will not human passion revenge itself by creeping into other channels, or, bursting all barriers, by inundating regions through which it would otherwise have gently flowed? The descendants of the Puritans and Pilgrim Fathers appear to us to have read the story of their ancestors to little purpose, if they have missed the connexion between the *legal* spirit of Puritanism, and the *licitious* age which followed it—between the soldierly piety of Cromwell's times, and the cavalier profligacy of succeeding reigns. You cannot *drill* the heart by words of command, nor extinguish vicious propensities by statutory enactments—and every attempt to do so will produce, at a less or greater interval of time, a terrible revulsion.

Nor do we believe that individual abstinence from evil, if brought about by social compulsion, is, all things considered, in reality a good. We have no wish to see the world filled with a merely negative virtue, or to tame human passions by caging them in law. We look for higher results than these—results far more in keeping with the dignity and majesty of man. All our faculties, we observe, mental and moral, are cast in a shape to require freedom of choice and agency as the very basis of moral improvement and enjoyment—and everything within us revolts against, and resents, the idea of virtue by coercion. The whole scheme of Providence agrees with this impression upon our faculties. We are surrounded by influences which we may abuse to our own and our neighbour's injury. Temptations abound on every hand. Means for pernicious and even fatal indulgences are given in plenty. These things are not withheld because it is foreseen that they will be turned to bad account. We have no compulsory teetotalism there. Why? Because life is a discipline, not a final estate—and because it is better, and far more conducive to ultimate progress, to train up mind to independent and robust virtue, even at the expense of very much that is to be deplored, than to secure a smug and trim morality, with which the mind has nothing whatever to do. And as our natural constitution agrees with providential law in demanding that, in all things primarily affecting individual destiny, we should be dealt with as having the right of free choice, so, we may add, Christianity evermore recognises this right, and evidently makes no account of the good which is gained by compulsory influence.

Society has yet to learn, and will learn, we fear, at no little cost, that many results desirable in themselves, even when attained, are rendered comparatively worthless, by the processes employed to bring them about, and that human nature dealt with as Dutch horticulturists deal with their shrubs, may be clipped into every variety of fantastic form, without improving it. The immense amount of individual anxiety, self-denial, enterprise, action, which the more compendious method of working by law will supersede, is of far more importance to permanent progress, than the artificial order which law may establish. Philanthropy aiming to secure its high ends by means in harmony with its own spirit, generates a conservative element which, in point of strength, immeasurably surpasses all that mere legislation can effect. It is the true salt of the earth, and, were it unhappily displaced by the more stringent action of civil government, would leave the world shorn of one of its most glorious redeeming features. Let but the schemes of modern sentimentalists take effect; let cleanliness, sobriety, education, and Sabbath-day observance, be handed over to compulsory, instead of voluntary effort, and all the virtue which is now evolved, and exercised, and matured, in seeking the accomplishment of these ends, will remain dormant. Society will lose tone—manly and robust morality will be succeeded by a puling sentimentalism—mere utilitarianism, cold, calculating, and sordid, will first enervate, and ultimately paralyse the action of conscience—and a decent outside will cover a depraved and rotten heart. Against this tendency of the age we are determined to wage incessant warfare, deliberately preferring the continuance of frightful blotches to any skin-deep cure of them which involves the destruction of the individuality of virtue.

THE PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—A Privy Council is to be held at Osborne-house to-morrow, at which the terms of the Queen's speech will be decided upon, and a commission appointed to deliver it. The prorogation itself will take place probably on the following day.—*Times*.

SEND BACK THE MONEY.—This subject seems to be as popular as ever. "Send back the money" meets the eye of the traveller in every part of the city. In order to distinctness, it seems to be quite fashionable to couple the "Send back" with names of ministers and elders, and even ladies are not exempted from the unenviable notoriety. "Send back the money, John Thomson," "Send back the money, Mrs. Jameson," "Send back the money, Dr. Candlish," flourish at every corner. Not satisfied with the usual places for bills, the sacredness of private property is no protection. Some Free Churchman is surprised every morning with the demand to "send back the money" inscribed on his door, with his name attached in very large characters. Even gigs, and carriages, and vessels of every kind have to bear their share of the popular "Send back."—*Glasgow Examiner*.

#### STATE EDUCATION.

##### POWER OF THE VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLE.

The fifth letter of Mr. E. Baines, jun., to Lord John Russell, on State Education, appeared in the *Leeds Mercury* of Saturday. It contains, perhaps, the finest practical illustration of the efficiency of the voluntary principle that has ever been presented to the public.

Mr. Baines recapitulates the leading points established in his last letter, that the full amount of day-school accommodation that could be reasonably expected, in England and Wales, in the present social and industrial circumstances of the people, was for 1,937,292 scholars, and that there were already schools calculated to accommodate 1,876,947 scholars, subject only to reduction by the degree to which the new schools of the last few years might have superseded old and inferior schools; from which he drew the conclusion that there is not the shadow of a case on which any Minister could come to Parliament—even admitting the right of Parliamentary interference—to demand public money for schools, much less to revolutionise the education of the country by a plan like Dr. Hook's.

He proceeds to answer the third question he proposed, *Supposing the number of schools to be deficient, is the deficiency one which the people can supply, and are likely to supply, for themselves?*

Here my principal embarrassment arises from the strength of the case which I laid before your lordship last week. It has left me nothing to prove. Dr. Hook has gone before me, and shown, by his figures and calculations, such a power of extension in the means of education, that my task is superseded. By Lord Kerry's returns we had, in 1833, day schools actually containing 1,276,947 scholars. And, by Dr. Hook's calculation, founded on the Parliamentary grants, there have been schools provided, since 1833, for 600,000 or 650,000 more: that is, there has been an increase of school accommodation to the enormous extent of 50 per cent. within the short space of thirteen years!

Of course I shall be met by the remark that this has been done, in part, by the aid of Government grants. Be it so—the thing is done; the schools are there; the want is supplied—no matter how. Yet, on this point, I have to remark, first, that a considerable proportion of the schools, according to Dr. Hook's admission, were built "without aid from Government."

Secondly, I remark, that if Government granted £395,000 in thirteen years, private individuals or societies must in the same period have contributed about £1,500,000 to the same object. For, if the statistical tables of applications for aid from the Parliamentary grant, appended to the Minutes of the Committee of Council of Education for 1842-3, be examined, it will be found that private individuals and societies subscribed nearly three times the amounts granted by Government. Moreover, from one-third to one-fourth of the schools were built, on Dr. Hook's supposition, wholly without Government aid. Call the public grants £400,000: the private contributions to the same schools would be three-fold, or £1,200,000: total cost of the aided schools £1,600,000. Then add one-fourth of this for the unaided schools, viz. £400,000: the aggregate amount of private contributions to the aided and unaided schools would be £1,600,000. I have called it £1,500,000: and an examination of Dr. Hook's own figures would lead to the same result. The Dr. assumes the total number of schools built since 1833 to be 4,521; and if we take his own estimate of £500 as the cost of each school, the aggregate cost would be £2,260,500: but as his estimate of £500 includes the masters' houses, which may not generally have been attached to the schools, suppose we deduct £400,000 on that account: there would remain a sum of £1,895,500 expended on schools since 1833, towards which Government has only granted £395,000. Thus it results from Dr. Hook's figures—though perhaps he did not see it—that the public have voluntarily expended £1,500,000 in twelve or thirteen years, in the erection of Day-schools! Private bounty, therefore, has done much more towards the erection of schools than public grants: and the magnificent scale of that private bounty deserves to be carefully remembered.

Thirdly, if, in some cases, the Government grant stimulated private liberality, as I admit it would, in other cases it would undoubtedly restrict that private liberality by diminishing the necessity for it. Most of the schools, we may believe, would have been built if there had been no Government grant at all; and, in these cases, public money merely came in as a substitute for private benevolence.

But what am I now to prove? If the figures I have given are correct, there is no general deficiency of the means of education in the country. The present day-schools, taking the population at large, will accommodate as many scholars as it is reasonable to expect in them. If deficiency exists, it must be partial, not general. I am ready to admit that some places are supplied beyond the average requirement, whilst others fall short of the school-accommodation that is desirable. But it is my sincere conviction that the deficiency of schools in the country is very small; and that, whatever want of education exists, it is to be ascribed, not to the want of schools, but to the poverty, apathy, or low moral state of parents, or to the necessity there is for sending the children to work at a very early age. I know good schools that have been given up solely from the impossibility of obtaining scholars. And there are many, very many well-conducted schools where the accommodation is far beyond the demand. Take, by way of specimen, the great commercial town of Liverpool and the city of York; and I am confident you will find the supply of schools in each of those places beyond the demand—you will find good schools of every kind, and supported by every denomination of religion, capable of accommodating many more children than can be obtained. Not a few of the schools recently built, have been built, not because there was a real want of schools in the respective places, but because the clergy were resolved to have Church schools, and, as far as possible, to supersede the schools of Dissenters. I submit, my lord, that, where this is the case, there is not the slightest justification for granting public money in aid of such a design.

But supposing, for the sake of argument, that schools may yet be required for half a million of children, are the people able and likely to supply the deficiency themselves? With the greatest possible case, in fact they are doing it:—

My proofs are these—



Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.  
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For every additional Two Lines . . . . . 6d.  
Half a Column. . . £1 | Column. . . . . £2

\* All communications to the Editor should be addressed to the office, 3, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from "Consistency," "A Voluntary Teetotaler," "Philo," and "J. S.," but a press of matter prevents our making use of any of them.

## The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1846.

## SUMMARY.

It is high time for Parliament to be up, and off to the moors; for its attention has, of late, been pretty equally divided between bitter personal altercations, and the passing of extensive measures, almost without discussion, putting an immense mass of new patronage into the hands of Government. Lord George Bentinck, the true type of a thorough Protectionist, not content with the official death of his opponents, goes out of his way to mangle their reputation. It appears that Sir H. Roper, Chief Justice of Bombay, had intimated his wish to resign, and had fixed upon the 2nd of November for carrying that wish into effect, as the earliest day at which he would be entitled to a pension for seven years' service. The new appointment was in the hands of Lord Ripon, who, in consequence of information by the officers of the colonial department, that a reversionary grant to take effect from the second of November was illegal, and, pressed by time on account of the difficulties of Ministers, made his appointment at once. The arrangement was as follows:—Mr. D. Pollock, Commissioner in the Insolvent Debtors' Court, was to proceed to Bombay; Mr. Phillips, Commissioner in the Bankruptcy Court at Liverpool, was to succeed Mr. Pollock; and Mr. Perry, private secretary of Lord Lyndhurst, was to go to Liverpool, *vice* Mr. Phillips. Upon this Lord Bentinck founded his charge, and intimated that there had been an exchange of patronage between Lord Ripon and the Lord Chancellor, and that the living of Nocton had been bartered for the Chief Justiceship of Bombay. The next night, however, he retracted the charge on ground which turned out to be erroneous. Lord Lyndhurst gave a plausible account of all the transactions, and concluded by breaking Lord George Bentinck on the wheel. The ex-president of the Jockey Club returned to the charge, and darkly insinuated that, on the 10th of July, the Lord Chancellor had sent him a special messenger with a view of inducing him to join some of the members of the late Cabinet, himself amongst the number, in overthrowing the Whig Government on the Sugar Duties Bill. To this charge the Lord Chancellor replied at some length. He denied *in toto* that he ever entertained objects similar to those imputed to him by Lord George. He professed that he never again intended burdening himself with office; and that, as his intention was well known, he thought he could disinterestedly employ his influence in healing the dissensions which had rent the Conservative party in twain. He had mentioned this project to several noble and honourable individuals. He had never made a secret of it; and it was with a view to sound Lord George Bentinck on this subject that the messenger had been sent. So far as this particular case is concerned, Lord Lyndhurst would seem to have the advantage. It affords us, nevertheless, a glimpse at the interior working of the patronage system; and it is humbling to think that this mighty empire is governed by a class of men who, the moment they fall out, ascribe, without the smallest hesitation, to each other practices which could hardly be imputed, except they had been rendered previously probable by prevailing custom.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has introduced a bill for the constitution of a new railway board, in lieu of the railway department of the Board of Trade. It is an improvement upon its predecessor; but, like most Whig measures, improvement directed with a trembling hand. The new board is to consist of not more than five commissioners, one of whom is to be president. Two of them are to be paid; two, who are to have seats in Parliament, are to be unpaid; and the president is to be connected with the Government, and to be removable if any change of administration takes place. The whole powers and duties of the railway department of the Board are to be transferred to the new board, and also authority to enforce the execution of the terms upon which bills are granted to railway companies. The bill seemed to meet the approval of the few members of Parliament, who yet remain to transact the business of the country, and there is little doubt that it will pass into law. The Small Debts Bill, a general measure, extending the principle of local courts to all parts of the country, and involving an immense amount of patronage, has also, with a mere apology for discussion, received the sanction of the House of Commons. Several other bills, too numerous to mention, partly bequeathed to the present Government by their predecessors in office, and partly originated by themselves, have been forwarded through their successive stages without remark.

Speaking has been principally limited to foreign affairs. Mr. Hume rates Lord Palmerston for allowing a violation of the treaty of Vienna by the occupation of Cracow, and Lord Palmerston replies in a tone calculated to excite some alarm in the Courts of the three powers who concurred in setting the independence of Cracow at naught. Lord George Bentinck urges more active interference for the protection of Mexico against the designs of the United States; and the Foreign Secretary, after vindicating what had been done by the last Government, declares that he has offered to mediate between the two conflicting parties in a shape which must produce some definite reply. On the whole, Lord Palmerston has evinced peaceful tendencies; and, happily, considers that free commercial intercourse between the different countries of the earth is the best guarantee for the maintenance of pacific relations.

The Andover union committee have given in their report. It blames the administration of the Poor-law, and the conduct of the three Commissioners; and yet it is difficult to see how, in the light of that law, their proceedings can be fairly condemned. Technically speaking, they have gone beyond the act—and, in some respects, have misinterpreted its provisions—but, in the main, they have given a fair embodiment of its spirit. It is plain that the present system cannot hold up under the pressure of the recent disclosures; but it is not at all plain what, supposing it to be abandoned, is to be adopted in its stead. The whole question appears to us to be surrounded by difficulties which must always attend the working out of a false principle.

From Ireland we have the same sad accounts of the continued spread of the potato disease. Political agitation excites but little attention in the face of so severe a social calamity; whilst the policy of the Whig Government, in carrying out the wishes of Mr. O'Connell, has served not a little to allay Irish discontent. Amongst the boons actually bestowed may be noticed the restoration of the dismissed repeal magistrates to the commission of the peace, an act of simple justice, but calculated to give general satisfaction. The Repeal party, or, in other words, "Young Ireland," does not, however, altogether slumber. Symptoms are here and there exhibited of no equivocal kind, that the proscribed *Nation* newspaper shares largely in the sympathies of the people. We learn that, in many places, the Repealers, even those who still regard O'Connell as their leader, refuse, at all hazards, to exclude it from their reading rooms. This fact may appear insignificant in itself, but it proves that there is a strong under-current adverse to the supremacy of the Liberator, which, under the skilful management of an O'Brien, and imbued with the earnest spirit of the *Nation*, may become a formidable obstacle in the future government of the country. Mere promises will do nothing to disarm such troublesome opposition as this; comprehensive and radical reforms can alone, by removing the original basis of their complaints, effect it.

The foreign news of the week is of a singularly chequered character. The gratifying reception of Mr. Cobden in Paris, the honours paid to himself and the great peaceful principle he represents, by men of rank and influence; the admirable, judicious, and telling manner in which he advocated commercial reform, and the evident interest his simple earnestness, and the views he enforced, seem to have awakened throughout France—are perhaps the most striking indications we have yet seen of the rapid advance of that period when war shall cease, not simply because it is undesirable, but because it is impossible—when, as Mr. Cobden said, "the barrier which separates men from their brethren should be subverted, and nations should unite in that spirit of concord which presided in that meeting—wherein they forgot whether they were French or English—to remember only that they were men." How sad is the reverse of the picture! From two other quarters of the globe we have the dismal tidings of the progress of that extermination which would seem to be the lot of all aboriginal races in coming in contact with civilised nations. In Cape Colony, the Kaffirs have been defeated with great slaughter, and the enraged settlers are pursuing them into their own territory, which, as being rich and fertile, will doubtless soon be annexed to the British possessions in that quarter. It is very difficult to ascertain correctly the original aggressor; but there is little doubt that the Kaffirs did not molest the colony without provocation, probably arising from the harshness and brutality of the Boers on the frontier. The fact that all their repeated efforts at conciliation were disregarded by the colonial authorities, proves them to be much misrepresented. Be this as it may, however, the Cape Government is bent on vengeance—a promising missionary field has been broken up—and hatred and animosity fostered amongst the African aborigines against their conquerors, which will, we fear, be productive of incessant annoyance for many years to come. If we turn to Tahiti, the aspect of affairs is still more deplorable—the conduct of the cowardly assailant utterly indefensible. Hostilities between the French and natives have again broken out; but the former have obtained but little advantage by their sanguinary policy. Their situation on the island is insecure—their supply of provisions very inadequate. The natives still retain possession of a portion of the island, and evince no intention of submitting to French domination. Meanwhile, the French Admiral has adopted a characteristic mode of revenge, by destroying the principal village of a neighbouring

island! Surely our neighbours, greedy as they are of glory, must be satiated by this time with the renown which French valour has acquired throughout the world by its triumphs over the inoffensive Tahitians. But perhaps they intend to commence in the South Seas the new Algerian policy—a war of extermination.

## EVERY MAN HIS OWN LAWYER.

THIS, if we may credit the argument of some of its advocates, is to be one of the happy results of state education. A blissful prospect, we must needs confess—"a consummation devoutly to be wished!" Is there an imagination so damp and uninflamnable as to resist the kindling power of so large a promise? "Every man his own lawyer!" Some concern for the gentlemen of the legal profession qualifies, of course, the joys of kind-hearted anticipation; for what is sport to the rest of the community will be death to them. But, after every deduction has been made on this account, there will yet remain enough, and more than enough, to excite a tumultuous pleasure in the philanthropic bosom. Think of it, you who stand in the way of a national system of education, and relax the pertinacity of your adherence to a theory! Think of the man who delves with the spade, or handles the bill, or follows the plough, or sits at the loom, penetrating with keen glance the dark intricacies of law, and carrying about with him, in his own head, a clear epitome of that immense mass of legal lore which it now requires a long lifetime of special study to master! Think of ragged urchins learned in precedents—of bricklayers and blacksmiths citing conflicting statutes—of printers' boys able to discriminate, with unerring accuracy, the precise bounds of what is libellous! Think of the confident security with which men of all grades will hereafter walk through the mazy labyrinth of life, fully instructed in all that law requires of them, and able to pay allegiance with the same certainty as they can measure physical commodities! Aye, "Think of that, Master Brooks!"

Are we trifling? Let, then, the blame rest upon those who heedlessly press into their service an argument which either folds up all this within itself, or is, vulgarly speaking, "a bag of moonshine." Every inhabitant of these realms, we are told, is presumed to know the law of the land, and is amenable to its penalties for every infraction of it. It is the duty of the State, which claims this allegiance, and which unhesitatingly inflicts punishment upon convicted transgression, to furnish the instruction necessary to its being rendered. The wise parent first teaches his children the duties they owe to him, and then chastises wilful disobedience. The just government is bound by obligations as cogent to educate in a knowledge of its will those whom afterwards it will punish for opposing it. The administrator of correction ought also to be the fountain of due information. Those whom the State may coerce, the State ought also to teach; for unavoidable ignorance dissolves responsibility, and no man can be made to suffer justly on account of discrepancies between his conduct and laws with which it is impossible he should ever have made acquaintance.

Is it even so? Then, we much fear that, with all the facilities which Government professes to command, the work devolving upon it will be found to be impracticable. The position taken up by the friends of State education with such apparent gravity, yet with such real thoughtlessness, is too ridiculous for serious argument, and is rather to be carried by raillery than by reason. Why, now, how much better instructed in the laws which he is bound to obey, will any youth be on leaving the State school than he was before he entered it? Are "Blackstone's Commentaries" to be taken as a text-book? Will examinations be held in statutory learning? How else will the scholar be informed in the kind of knowledge which the case requires? The law of our land is proverbially bottomless. No length of line can fathom it. There are holes and pits in it below the profoundest depths to which judges have dived. You may spend fifty years in poring over this embodiment of the State's will, and yet be ruined at last on account of defective or mistaken views. And yet, the small fry of our working population, able at most to spend seven years at school, are to acquire besides reading, writing, and arithmetic, besides a smattering of history, an idea of geography, and a glance at natural philosophy, such an acquaintance with the laws by which they are to be governed as will render their breach of them inexcusable, and the State's punishment of such breach not only expedient but just. Now, does any man living, we ask, expect that this, or anything approaching to it, will be done? Nay! does he suppose that any instruction in law will be imparted to government scholars? Does he imagine that British statutes will constitute one branch of study even in normal and model schools? And if not, how preposterous it is to stun us with reasons why such and such things ought to be done, when it is plain that the State neither would do them if it could, nor could do them if it would!

But it will perhaps be replied, You strain the argument far beyond the meaning of those who employ it. It is hardly necessary, in order to discharge the duties of a good subject, that a man should be instructed in statutory law. That which is essential to quiet citizenship—those moral obligations which, when duly recognised, form men to justice, peace, contentment, and loyalty—are to be found in the common, or unwritten law of the land. These it is requisite to the well-being of society that every one of its members under-



stand and know—and this rudimentary knowledge the State can and ought to impart.

Should the State do this, we shrewdly suspect its scholars might address it, in reference to this department of its work, and say, "Thank ye for nothing!" Why, who is ignorant of the primary rules of social morality? Is not one of them,—and that, so far as society is concerned, a main one,—expressed in a distich redolent of the low grade from which it comes?—

"Him as prigs wot isn't his'n  
When he's catch'd must go to pris'n."

Or to accommodate to our argument a quotation from a more classical authority, we should say—

"There needs no ghost, my lord, come from the grave,  
To tell us this."

"Thou shalt not kill"—"Thou shalt not steal"—we hardly require a magnificent and costly apparatus of Government schools to impress these and such like precepts on the young conscience. The argument looks pretty enough in words—but really, if this is all that is meant by it, we think the country may yet contrive to get on without State education, and subjects may pick up elsewhere than in Government seminaries, a sufficient practical knowledge of their rights and duties.

To this it may be answered, that bald preceptive direction is not all that is needed. Some explanation of social relationships, some exposition of the grounds of morality, some cultivation, in short, of the susceptibilities of conscience, is required. We admit it—and we found upon our admission this broad assertion, that it is impossible to teach morality to any purpose, without trenching upon both politics and religion. The schoolmaster who is to train the moral sentiment must be to some extent both politician and divine. Now this duty we object most decidedly to devolve upon civil rulers—for in the one direction, our love of liberty, and in the other, our love of Christianity, forbids the delegation to it of a trust so delicate.

The argument, then, is nought. Either it means everything which its terms denote, in which case Government is charged with a duty which is impracticable—or it means scarcely anything, in which case Government aid is clearly superfluous—or it means what it does not express, in which case Government interference is dangerous. Taken any way, the inference meant to be deduced from the premises, fall to pieces the moment they are handled. Though Government should have its schools in every district, it would be as Quixotic to expect to see, in the next generation, as in this, "Every man his own lawyer."

#### COMPULSORY MORALITY.

MANY of our readers will be aware that we inserted in our last number a letter from Mr. F. J. Thompson, of Bridgewater, which, occasioned by some remarks of ours on the "World's Temperance Convention," offered as "*materials for thought*" a certain chain of propositions, leading to the conclusion—which, however, was not expressed—that we are justified in aiming at a suppression of intemperate habits by a legal prohibition of the sale of alcoholic drinks. We have no personal objection to the discussion of the question as it is there stated—but we are far from thinking that it would be satisfactory to any party. One "infringement of liberty" may be shown to include in it no more of the spirit of tyranny than another—nay! this trespasser upon individual rights and obligations, like a kangaroo, may carry that, and several others, its legitimate offspring, in its pouch. But one wrong principle cannot be held to establish another; and therefore, inasmuch as, argued upon so questionable a basis, the matter cannot be settled, we shall take leave to treat of it on altogether other grounds; and admitting, for argument sake merely, the right of rate-payers to defend themselves against a profligate expenditure of their money, we shall point out the inexpediency, so far at least as social morality is concerned, of attempting to enforce that right in favour of total abstinence.

We regard with some alarm the strong tendency of this age to a practical distrust of the superior efficacy of moral influences. America has introduced into the field of philanthropy "elements" which inspired wisdom has characterised as "beggarly," and is insensibly dragging us back to notions of virtue which we can only describe as essentially barbarous. To do things by force—to break down individual independence, whether of judgment or of choice—to frown men into self-denial—to use custom, opinion, law, anything, in fact, felt to be stronger and more direct than conviction and persuasion, in determining moral conduct—to jam the reluctant between a noisy public sentiment on the one hand and a statutory prohibition on the other, and to drive them, thus guarded, in the line of temperance and discretion—is more fashionable on the other side of the Atlantic than, we hope, it will ever prove here. It is a *lazy* way of seeking human progress. It is the substitution of mechanism for soul—command for invitation—law for gospel. It is fit only for society in its rude and boisterous childhood. Necessity may sometimes compel the adoption of it; but nothing but ignorance, impatience, or mistrust, will think of returning to it after the discovery of "a more excellent way."

We fear the abettors of this compulsory method of making nations virtuous, have never fairly studied the philosophy of their own principles, and that they are little disposed to consult the laws of their own nature. What progress is ever made in the way of social reformation, save when every step of it is brought about by successful appeals to the under-

standing and the will? Who does not know that what is seemingly gained by ruder agencies, is gained only for the time that the agencies operate, and is invariably followed by lamentable reaction? Is it not with nations as with individuals? Where restraint is most constantly resorted to as a means to deter from vice, will not human passion revenge itself by creeping into other channels, or, bursting all barriers, by inundating regions through which it would otherwise have gently flowed? The descendants of the Puritans and Pilgrim Fathers appear to us to have read the story of their ancestors to little purpose, if they have missed the connexion between the legal spirit of Puritanism, and the licentious age which followed it—between the soldierly piety of Cromwell's times, and the cavalier profligacy of succeeding reigns. You cannot *drill* the heart by words of command, nor extinguish vicious propensities by statutory enactments—and every attempt to do so will produce, at a less or greater interval of time, a terrible revulsion.

Nor do we believe that individual abstinence from evil, if brought about by social compulsion, is, all things considered, in reality a good. We have no wish to see the world filled with a merely negative virtue, or to tame human passions by caging them in law. We look for higher results than these—results far more in keeping with the dignity and majesty of man. All our faculties, we observe, mental and moral, are cast in a shape to require freedom of choice and agency as the very basis of moral improvement and enjoyment—and everything within us revolts against, and resents, the idea of virtue by coercion. The whole scheme of Providence agrees with this impression upon our faculties. We are surrounded by influences which we may abuse to our own and our neighbour's injury. Temptations abound on every hand. Means for pernicious and even fatal indulgences are given in plenty. These things are not withheld because it is foreseen that they will be turned to bad account. We have no compulsory totalitarianism there. Why? Because life is a discipline, not a final estate—and because it is better, and far more conducive to ultimate progress, to train up mind to independent and robust virtue, even at the expense of very much that is to be deplored, than to secure a smug and trim morality, with which the mind has nothing whatever to do. And as our natural constitution agrees with providential law in demanding that, in all things primarily affecting individual destiny, we should be dealt with as having the right of free choice, so, we may add, Christianity evermore recognises this right, and evidently makes no account of the good which is gained by compulsory influence.

Society has yet to learn, and will learn, we fear, at no little cost, that many results desirable in themselves, even when attained, are rendered comparatively worthless, by the processes employed to bring them about, and that human nature dealt with as Dutch horticulturists deal with their shrubs, may be clipped into every variety of fantastic form, without improving it. The immense amount of individual anxiety, self-denial, enterprise, action, which the more compendious method of working by law will supersede, is of far more importance to permanent progress, than the artificial order which law may establish. Philanthropy aiming to secure its high ends by means in harmony with its own spirit, generates a conservative element which, in point of strength, immeasurably surpasses all that mere legislation can effect. It is the true salt of the earth, and, were it unhappily displaced by the more stringent action of civil government, would leave the world shorn of one of its most glorious redeeming features. Let but the schemes of modern sentimentalists take effect; let cleanliness, sobriety, education, and Sabbath-day observance, be handed over to compulsory, instead of voluntary effort, and all the virtue which is now evolved, and exercised, and matured, in seeking the accomplishment of these ends, will remain dormant. Society will lose tone—manly and robust morality will be succeeded by a puling sentimentalism—mere utilitarianism, cold, calculating, and sordid, will first enervate, and ultimately paralyse the action of conscience—and a decent outside will cover a depraved and rotten heart. Against this tendency of the age we are determined to wage incessant warfare, deliberately preferring the continuance of frightful blotches to any skin-deep cure of them which involves the destruction of the individuality of virtue.

THE PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—A Privy Council is to be held at Osborne-house to-morrow, at which the terms of the Queen's speech will be decided upon, and a commission appointed to deliver it. The prorogation itself will take place probably on the following day.—*Times*.

SEND BACK THE MONEY.—This subject seems to be as popular as ever. "Send back the money" meets the eye of the traveller in every part of the city. In order to distinctness, it seems to be quite fashionable to couple the "Send back" with names of ministers and elders, and even ladies are not exempted from the unenviable notoriety. "Send back the money, John Thomson," "Send back the money, Mrs. Jameson," "Send back the money, Dr. Candlish," flourish at every corner. Not satisfied with the usual places for bills, the sacredness of private property is no protection. Some Free Churchman is surprised every morning with the demand to "send back the money" inscribed on his door, with his name attached in very large characters. Even gigs, and carriages, and vessels of every kind have to bear their share of the popular "Send back."—*Glasgow Examiner*.

#### STATE EDUCATION.

##### POWER OF THE VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLE.

The fifth letter of Mr. E. Baines, jun., to Lord John Russell, on State Education, appeared in the *Leeds Mercury* of Saturday. It contains, perhaps, the finest practical illustration of the efficiency of the voluntary principle that has ever been presented to the public.

Mr. Baines recapitulates the leading points established in his last letter, that the full amount of day-school accommodation that could be reasonably expected, in England and Wales, in the present social and industrial circumstances of the people, was for 1,937,292 scholars, and that there were already schools calculated to accommodate 1,876,947 scholars, subject only to reduction by the degree to which the new schools of the last few years might have superseded old and inferior schools; from which he drew the conclusion that there is not the shadow of a case on which any Minister could come to Parliament—even admitting the right of Parliamentary interference—to demand public money for schools, much less to revolutionise the education of the country by a plan like Dr. Hook's.

He proceeds to answer the third question he proposed, *Supposing the number of schools to be deficient, is the deficiency one which the people can supply, and are likely to supply, for themselves?*

Here my principal embarrassment arises from the strength of the case which I laid before your lordship last week. It has left me nothing to prove. Dr. Hook has gone before me, and shown, by his figures and calculations, such a power of extension in the means of education, that my task is superseded. By Lord Kerry's returns we had, in 1833, day schools actually containing 1,276,947 scholars. And, by Dr. Hook's calculation, founded on the Parliamentary grants, there have been schools provided, since 1833, for 600,000 or 650,000 more: that is, there has been an increase of school accommodation to the enormous extent of 50 per cent. within the short space of thirteen years!

Of course I shall be met by the remark that this has been done, in part, by the aid of Government grants. Be it so—the thing is done; the schools are there; the want is supplied—no matter how. Yet, on this point, I have to remark, first, that a considerable proportion of the schools, according to Dr. Hook's admission, were built "without aid from Government."

Secondly, I remark, that if Government granted £395,000 in thirteen years, private individuals or societies must in the same period have contributed about £1,500,000 to the same object. For, if the statistical tables of applications for aid from the Parliamentary grant, appended to the Minutes of the Committee of Council of Education for 1842-3, be examined, it will be found that private individuals and societies subscribed nearly three times the amounts granted by Government. Moreover, from one-third to one-fourth of the schools were built, on Dr. Hook's supposition, wholly without Government aid. Call the public grants £400,000: the private contributions to the same schools would be threefold, or £1,200,000: total cost of the aided schools £1,600,000. Then add one-fourth of this for the unaided schools, viz. £400,000: the aggregate amount of private contributions to the aided and unaided schools would be £1,600,000. I have called it £1,500,000: and an examination of Dr. Hook's own figures would lead to the same result. The Dr. assumes the total number of schools built since 1833 to be 4,521: and if we take his own estimate of £500 as the cost of each school, the aggregate cost would be £2,260,500: but as his estimate of £500 includes the masters' houses, which may not generally have been attached to the schools, suppose we deduct £400,000 on that account: there would remain a sum of £1,860,500 expended on schools since 1833, towards which Government has only granted £395,000. Thus it results from Dr. Hook's figures—though perhaps he did not see it—that the public have voluntarily expended £1,500,000 in twelve or thirteen years, in the erection of Day-schools! Private bounty, therefore, has done much more towards the erection of schools than public grants: and the magnificent scale of that private bounty deserves to be carefully remembered.

Thirdly, if, in some cases, the Government grant stimulated private liberality, as I admit it would, in other cases it would undoubtedly restrict that private liberality by diminishing the necessity for it. Most of the schools, we may believe, would have been built if there had been no Government grant at all; and, in these cases, public money merely came in as a substitute for private benevolence.

But what am I now to prove? If the figures I have given are correct, there is no general deficiency of the means of education in the country. The present day-schools, taking the population at large, will accommodate as many scholars as it is reasonable to expect in them. If deficiency exists, it must be partial, not general. I am ready to admit that some places are supplied beyond the average requirement, whilst others fall short of the school-accommodation that is desirable. But it is my sincere conviction that the deficiency of schools in the country is very small; and that, whatever want of education exists, it is to be ascribed, not to the want of schools, but to the poverty, apathy, or low moral state of parents, or to the necessity there is for sending the children to work at a very early age. I know good schools that have been given up solely from the impossibility of obtaining scholars. And there are many, very many well-conducted schools where the accommodation is far beyond the demand. Take, by way of specimen, the great commercial town of Liverpool and the city of York; and I am confident you will find the supply of schools in each of those places beyond the demand—you will find good schools of every kind, and supported by every denomination of religion, capable of accommodating many more children than can be obtained. Not a few of the schools recently built, have been built, not because there was a real want of schools in the respective places, but because the clergy were resolved to have Church schools, and, as far as possible, to supersede the schools of Dissenters. I submit, my lord, that, where this is the case, there is not the slightest justification for granting public money in aid of such a design.

But supposing, for the sake of argument, that schools may yet be required for half a million of children, are the people able and likely to supply the deficiency themselves? With the greatest possible case, in fact they are doing it:—

My proofs are these—



1st. It has been shown that the people have within the last twelve or thirteen years voluntarily expended the enormous amount of one million-and-a-half sterling in building schools, and have thereby (with the aid of the Government grants) provided accommodation for at least six hundred thousand scholars; which exceeds the deficiency that I am for argument's sake assuming still to exist.

2nd. To put an end for ever to the pretence that this amount of voluntary liberality was created by the Parliamentary grants, I beg to refer your lordship once more to the returns obtained by Lord Kerry in 1833. You will there find columns giving the following remarkable particulars:—

INCREASE OF SCHOOLS BETWEEN 1818 AND 1833.		
	Schools.	Scholars.
Increase of Infant and Daily-schools	19,645	671,243
— Sunday-schools .....	11,285	1,123,397

If these returns are correct, the day-scholars increased from 605,704 in 1818, to 1,276,947 in 1833,—or 111 per cent.; and the Sunday-scholars increased from 425,493 in 1818, to 1,548,890 in 1833, or 264 per cent.!

It is not probable, however, that this information is correct, at least as to day-scholars. We see, on reflection, that it must have been very difficult to obtain accurate information in 1833 as to the schools existing in 1818. Where schools had been discontinued in the interval, there would be no person to give information as to the numbers they contained at the former period. Many of the new schools would have no direct predecessors; and, therefore, the returns in such cases would be, that there were no scholars in those schools in 1818. I therefore place little reliance on Lord Kerry's returns as to the comparative numbers of scholars in 1818 and 1833. But yet those returns are very valuable, as affording strong presumptive evidence of the immense number of new schools established between 1818 and 1833. The only ground for believing the returns to be defective as to 1818 is, that a great number of new schools is presumed to have been established between that year and the year 1833, by which many of the old schools were superseded, and thus the means of obtaining information concerning the latter cut off. If the number of new schools established was not great, we should have no reason to conclude that the information as to 1818 was materially defective. Whichever way we take it, the presumption remains exceedingly strong, that there was an immense amount of school accommodation provided between 1818 and 1833. And inasmuch as no public money was voted for that purpose prior to 1833, it is certain that that accommodation was provided by the independent and voluntary action of the people themselves. We can hardly suppose the amount expended in the erection of day-schools between 1818 and 1833 to have been less than the amount expended between 1833 and 1846, namely, £2,000,000 sterling. If new schools were provided for 671,243 scholars, as we may infer from Lord Kerry's returns, they would cost at least as much as the schools for 600,000 scholars built since 1833. Nor is it of any consequence whether the schools were public or private: if private, they were provided by private competition: if public, by public benevolence. And, in my view, my lord, it would be as great a calamity to destroy the freedom of private competition as to quench the benevolence of the public.

If the above calculations, all founded on official documents, be correct, the following will be the aggregate result:—

Expended by the People themselves on	£.
Day-schools from 1818 to 1833 .....	2,000,000
Ditto ditto from 1833 to 1846 (exclusive of public grants) .....	1,500,000

Total since 1818 .....

Pretty well for the despised voluntary principle!

But he has, at present, said nothing of the greatest achievement of the voluntary principle—Sunday-schools:—

I invite your lordship's attention to the fact, that there have arisen in this country, almost entirely within the present century, Sunday-schools containing, at least, two millions of scholars, under the gratuitous instruction of more than three hundred thousand teachers. This is a benefit no more to be measured by money than was the apostolic gift for which Simon Magus proffered his base pelf. Yet as money has been mentioned, and as our faint-hearted doctors, of both churches, and political as well as religious, have so sadly mistrusted their country, we may follow the arithmetical bent of one of them, and calculate our expenditure. Lord Kerry's incomplete returns gave us 16,828 Sunday-schools, in 1833. It will be far below the truth if I say, that we have now 20,000 Sunday-schools. Suppose that they cost, on the average, £250 each, the result is, that the people of England and Wales have expended FIVE MILLIONS sterling (£5,000,000) in the building of Sunday-schools within the present century!

Towards this gigantic effort Government contributed nothing—not so much as a smile.

He then refers to other institutions established within the present century, connected with the education and intellectual improvement of the people:—

University College and King's College, London, the University of Durham, the colleges for training Independent ministers at Manchester and Birmingham, the colleges for training Wesleyan ministers at Richmond and Didsbury, the splendid schools of the Mechanics' Institution and the Collegiate Institution at Liverpool, the philosophical and literary societies and the mechanics' institutions throughout the kingdom, the museums, the public libraries, the proprietary schools, the normal schools, the schools for orphans and the children of ministers and missionaries, the agricultural schools, the schools of industry,—all these invaluable institutions, which really swarm through the land, have been created by the public spirit and liberality of the people themselves, without a word of encouragement or a sixpence of aid from their governors. If we could reduce the aggregate cost of these institutions to any estimate, the figure would be very high. It would certainly amount to some millions.

Analogous to the educational efforts of the people, have been their efforts for their own religious instruction:—

From the statistical returns illustrative of the religious and educational state of the manufacturing districts of Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire, obtained by myself in the year 1843, it appeared that in those districts alone there had been church and chapel accommodation provided by voluntary efforts within the present century to the amount of 612,184 sittings, at an estimated cost of £2,726,478. This was independent of 70,611 sittings in Parliamentary churches, which were also aided by private subscriptions. If there had been only one-half the number of churches and chapels built in other parts of England and Wales, in proportion to the population, it would prove an aggregate expenditure in this department alone, of not less than £11,200,000 within the present century. As if to show how the Government is ever distanced by the people themselves in liberality, even in cases where it admits it to be a duty to

interfere, Parliament granted one million and a half towards building new churches during the same period!

The various missionary societies, home and foreign, for every conceivable object of religious benevolence, are then enumerated. "The aggregate annual income of the societies which hold their anniversaries in London in the spring (independent of mere provincial societies) is not less than half a million sterling!"

Mr. Baines then recounts the voluntary efforts made by Dissenters for the support of their own ministers and places of worship:—

Suppose there are seven thousand Nonconformist ministers in England and Wales,\* and that the support of the minister, and the expenses of the chapel, average only £150 a-year, it would show an annual assessment of themselves by the Nonconformist bodies (so often ridiculed for their poverty), for their own places of worship alone, to the amount of upwards of a million sterling (£1,050,000)!

He then invites attention to the numerous medical and other charities established throughout the kingdom, entirely supported by voluntary contributions,—the education charities estimated at £500,000,—and the splendid proofs around us of what has been accomplished, in the shape of social-improvement and scientific discovery, by the moral energy and inventive genius of the people:—

It is the glory of Englishmen, my lord, that they have done all these things: and it is the glory of their Government that it has let them.

It is no honour to a Government to go beyond its province, and to attempt things for which it is incompetent. Your paternal despotisms are eternally meddling—treating their subjects as if they were children in the arms—swathing, and coddling, and petting them—feeding them with spoon-meat—holding them up with leading-strings—and saving them the trouble not merely of acting, but even of thinking, for themselves; not knowing, or pretending not to know, that in all this they are drawing off the pith and marrow and life's blood of the people, and dooming them to perpetual decrepitude! And ecclesiastical despotism has too closely imitated civil despotism. It has provided nations with a religion; it has prescribed creeds, and forms of prayer, and ceremonies, and modes of worship; it has endowed priests for them, with a many-storied hierarchy; it has taken into alliance with itself the civil power, but all for the good of religion; it has secured for itself—though purely for the honour of God—dignities, prerogatives, and wealth; it has condescendingly informed the people what they are to read, and what they are not to read—what they are to believe, and what they are not to believe; and, in its much pity, it has often enlightened men's souls by the flames with which it has burned their bodies!

Oh, my Lord! when will these sad usurpations, so dishonouring to God and so degrading to man, have an end? When will Governments learn their true province? When will they cease to clip the eagle's wings? When will they trust Christ with the government of his own church? When will they take off their presumptuous hands from holding up the ark of the living God? When will they learn the sacred claims of conscience? When will they unfetter the human mind, and let it grow up to its own commanding stature?

Mr. Baines concludes his able letter by saying:—"Those who are driven from their ignorant assertions as to the quantity of education in England will now take refuge in assertions as to its quality. I shall therefore, in my next, discuss that question. I shall also show the strong, the natural, not to say the irresistible, tendency of Government interference to destroy voluntary effort. And there will still remain behind, the important and interesting question, whether we are to purchase Government interference at the necessary price of separating entirely between secular and religious education."

A HARD CASE UNDER THE GAME-LAWS.—A case, illustrative of the oppressive nature of the game-laws, was brought before the magistrates, on Monday last, at the Warrington petty sessions. An Irishman, named Felix Slavin, was charged by the gamekeeper of Mr. J. W. Patten with having offered for sale a young cock pheasant. It appeared that the prisoner was standing with the bird in his hand at the stall of a dealer in game, and the gamekeeper coming by, and seeing this, gave him into custody. The poor fellow gave a rather confused account of the manner in which he obtained the bird, which was alive, and produced in court; but the facts appeared to be, that he was walking in Bewsey, and, as he went along, he saw this bird lying in the road hurt, and unable to get away. Naturally enough, he picked it up, came into the town, and seeing a bird hanging in the poulterer's shop, went and asked the price of it; on being told he produced his bird, and asked what it was worth. Some conversation then took place between the prisoner and the man in the shop,—the principal being absent,—which plainly showed that the prisoner did not know what sort of a bird he had got, when at this period the gamekeeper came up, and he was secured. The poulterer's man appeared as a witness, and admitted he thought, when he first saw the bird, that it was a cornerake. The fact of offering it for sale was not satisfactorily made out. The gamekeeper said that he had recently turned about fifty-six young pheasants loose into the preserves, near to the place where the prisoner alleged he had found this one. He had bred the birds at home, and he had no doubt this one strayed out. The prisoner, in defence, stated that he found the bird as already related, and that he did not know what it was. He hoped their honours would be merciful, as he was a poor man, and wanted to get home. Mr. Beaumont urged that the charge was not proved, but the magistrates thought differently, and inflicted a penalty of 10s., with 10s. 6d. costs; or, in default of payment, six weeks' imprisonment. Ultimately, the money was paid, and the prisoner was liberated.—*Globe*.

\* The Nonconformist places of worship in the manufacturing districts from which I obtained returns in 1843, were 1,258 in number, in a population of 2,208,771. I believe I shall be under the mark in computing the number of Nonconformist ministers and congregations in England and Wales at seven thousand.

† If I admitted Dr. Hook as a historical authority, I should adduce the Church of England as a great voluntary institution, at least in its origin, and the foundation of its vast revenues: for he says, "Our ancestors endowed the Church, not by legislative enactment, but by the piety of individuals" (p. 37). I hope, therefore, Dr. Hook will add this to the many other proofs of the power of the voluntary principle! For myself, having some slight scruples as to the historical accuracy of the doctor's view, I refrain from pressing the Establishment into my argument.

THE "MANCHESTER GUARDIAN" ON STATE EDUCATION.—The *Manchester Guardian* of Wednesday last, in an article on this subject, states the following as likely to coincide with the intentions of the Government:—

"It will probably be REQUIRED that EVERY child shall have attended some LICENSED school for a certain time BEFORE HE IS PERMITTED TO OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT!!! In order to render the fulfilment of this condition practicable, schools will be established at the expense, and under the control, of the State; but parents will be at liberty to send their children to any other school which has been approved by a Government inspector! The only probable interference, then, in respect to schools established by private liberality is, that they will be open to a Government inspector, who will refuse his certificate unless satisfied with the secular instruction afforded!!! This is a condition to which the supporters of no well-conducted school can reasonably object. Many schools are now open to this supervision; and when the inspector is satisfied as to their character, not the slightest interference is attempted with the management of them."

In noticing this statement, the *Leeds Mercury* remarks:—

"If Government should really be entertaining a project so despotic and so infatuated as that here indicated—which we do not believe—it is high time for the people to be looking about them. We think the *Guardian* owes it to the public to state, whether he has reason to believe that this is the Government project, as his language seems to imply."

"In any case, this extract from a paper favourable to State education will serve to show what lengths the Government will certainly be urged to go, if the principle of Government interference with education should once be admitted. The scheme of the *Guardian* goes the whole length of compulsory education. It proposes to enact a law forbidding a child to receive employment, unless he has been educated in a school licensed by the Government!!! It arrogates to the Government a power over all schools in the kingdom, public and private!!! No school could exist, according to this project, but at the pleasure, under the license, and under the constant surveillance of the Government!!!"

"We need not tell any man who can reflect for a single moment, that this project implies the appointment of an army of Government inspectors, not only for every school, but for every shop, workshop, and house in the kingdom! For if children are to be prevented from obtaining employment, Government must provide the means of inspecting every place where employment of any kind is carried on!!!"

"We have no words to express our sentiments as to this project. If the people of England should submit to it, they would indeed deserve to be slaves, without a thought to call their own!"

THE TRADE OF THE YEAR.—The *Economist* of Saturday publishes the official accounts of the trade and navigation of the United Kingdom, for the six months ending the 5th ult., compared with the corresponding period of the two preceding years. These accounts do not present the commerce of the year in a very flattering aspect. We must, however, bear in mind that business has necessarily been much unsettled by the important legislative measures which have been under discussion during the whole session, and by the derangement of our monetary system, connected with the huge railway undertakings of the present year, and the consequent difficulty in obtaining the usual facilities on which the business of the country depends. These tables show that in all the chief articles of food consumed by the masses of people, the importation and consumption have greatly increased in the present year, compared with any former year, and exhibit in a striking way the enormous benefits which the community in general, and the working classes in particular, have derived from the policy of free trade adopted by this country. We have the following comparison of the quantities of those articles necessary for the food of the people imported and taken for consumption in six months in 1845, under the law as it then stood, and in the present year, under the change which has been effected:—

	1845.	1846
Live animals of all kinds .. No.	6,899	25,499
Provisions..... Cwts.	70,311	122,230
Grain..... Qrs.	543,898	2,301,949
Flour and Meal.....Cwts.	97,787	2,197,554

Nor is it the least gratifying fact attendant upon this enormous increase of supply of the first necessities of life, that the interests of the British producer have not been in any sensible degree affected by it; for there has seldom been a period when all classes of English farmers were more prosperous than they are at the present moment. In the exports of British produce and manufactures, there has been a decline upon the last six months, compared with the same period in 1845, of £1,145,760, but taking the three chief fabrics on which the labour of the country is employed, the reduction will be found much greater.

INTEMPERANCE AND CRIME.—Judge Wightman, charging the grand jury at Liverpool, on Monday, said:—"I find, from a perusal of the evidence in the depositions, one unfailing cause of four-fifths of the offences in this (as, indeed, it is of every other) calendar—the besetting sin of drunkenness. In almost all the cases of violence to the person, the scene has been a public-house or beer-shop, when the parties were inflamed and exasperated by intoxication. So long as the habits of the common people are those of intemperance, whenever an opportunity is afforded—so long as they are incapable of recreation and enjoyment, except that of drinking to excess in a public-house—much improvement cannot be expected. It is earnestly hoped that the efforts which have been and are now making, in the right direction, by the encouragement of temperance societies, and the establishment of other recreations besides those of intoxication, will gradually effect a change in the national character in this most important particular."

The trial of Quillan for the manslaughter of Mr. Hind on the occasion of the recent accident on the Eastern Counties Railway, has been postponed till next Old Bailey sessions.

The subscriptions for the widow and children of the late Benjamin Robert Haydon, the historical painter, now amounts to upwards of £2,000, exclusive of the annuity of Lady Peel already fixed on the relict.



## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

## INDIA AND CHINA.

Another Indian mail has arrived. Peace at present seems to prevail through this vast empire, but in the Punjab it is a peace perforce, an armed and bristling peace. One hundred thousand men are quiet on compulsion. Quiet, however, just now prevails at Lahore, and there are now no symptoms of interruption.

The Wuzer, Rajah Lal Singh, has not yet demanded the withdrawal of the British troops. The Ranees has had a dispute with the British agent, and has intimated her readiness to help the troops away.

Locally, a petition of thirty-five merchants of Calcutta to Government, calling for the opening of the company's export warehouse for advances, on the hypothecation of produce, shipped for England (as a measure of relief to the money market), has been refused pending expected instructions from home.

At Kurrachee the cholera was raging with great fierceness. The number of deaths of Europeans alone on the 15th, 16th, and 17th of June, is stated to be 255, and upwards of 100 of these cases belong to her Majesty's 86th Regiment. No officer is mentioned as having fallen a victim. The natives were dying by hundreds. Reports were current of the approaching retirement from the Government of Madras of the Marquis of Tweeddale.

From China we learn that the British authorities had not given up Chusan according to the terms of the treaty, and a Chinese mob had expelled foreign residents from the city of Foo-chow-Foo.

## BANQUET TO MR. COBDEN AT PARIS.

The *Journal des Débats*, of Wednesday, has a very lengthened notice of a dinner given to Mr. Cobden, on Friday, by the "Société des Economistes." The Duke d'Harcourt, a peer of France, and president of the Société des Libres Echanges, took the chair on the occasion, having Mr. Cobden on his right. The attendance of leading peers and deputies was large, and the first toast was to the King, proposed by the chairman, accompanied with the following sentiment:—

"May the establishment of freedom of commerce add a new *éclat* to a reign which has been already signalised by so many services rendered to the prosperity of industry and the peace of the world."

M. Horace Say, who acted as vice-president of the meeting, proposed the health of Mr. Cobden, in a short but impressive speech, expressive of the admiration of his character and exertions, of the great principles which he had with so much zeal and ability espoused, and brought to a triumphant end.

Mr. Cobden replied in French, and in an admirable address gave a full and yet succinct history of the objects, means, and triumph of the League. The following are extracts from his address:—

Gentlemen,—It is a source of regret to me that two languages are spoken in this assembly, where I am sure there is but one heart. Under more favourable circumstances, it would be difficult for me to express my feelings at the present moment, how much the more impossible is it then for me to express them in a tongue with which unhappily I am not familiar. Gentlemen, I beg of you to accept my heartfelt thanks for the cordial manner in which you replied to the too flattering expressions with which your excellent president introduced me to you. Allow me to claim for others a great share of this cordiality. I am but a simple workman among many others of greater merit, who have long laboured for the triumph of great and noble principles. In the absence of my fellow-workmen allow me to thank you in their name for your sympathy. Having disavowed any exclusive merit in the work which has just been accomplished, I may be allowed to say, without being taxed with egotism, that I share the opinion of this meeting in the importance of our victory. Free-trade is another article added to the charter of the liberty of man. It is a new beacon raised on the path of nations to point out the progress of civilisation in the nineteenth century. We have already obtained freedom of conscience, liberty of speech and of the press, and we are now in the possession of the liberty of industry, and I must own that I never considered myself as the citizen of a free country as long as the stigma of slavery, in the shape of monopoly, deprived my fellow-countrymen of the rights and the just reward of their labour and their industry. Gentlemen, it would not be rendering justice to my own sentiments, nor to the earnest desires of my colleagues in England, if I were to sit down without saying that, from the universal application of our principles, we await results of a far higher order than those to which I have alluded this day. Doubtless it is well to develop commerce, to multiply the comforts of life, to stimulate industry, and increase the rewards of labour. But however great are these material advantages, free-trade is called upon to confer benefits of a far higher order on mankind. You applauded this evening the words of our president when he spoke of peace, and your sentiments in this respect will find an echo in the breast of the free-traders of England. Europe, it is true, rests in peace, but does she reap all its blessings? On every side we see the means of warfare increase. Oh, against this scourge of man, the world needs other pledges than those sought in mighty and ruinous armaments, for experience has unhappily proved that such threatening preparations are more apt to stimulate than quench the thirst for war. To render peace something else than an armed truce, a number of interests must be cast aside, capable of anticipating even the possibility of war. That is the calling of the free-traders. Let nations be united by that spirit of harmony which presides at this assembly; let us forget that we are French or English, and remember only that we are men. Gentlemen, I again offer you my thanks for the attention with which you have listened to the feeble expression of my feelings; and before I sit down allow me to propose, "The Union of all Nations."

"All Mr. Cobden's allusions to France," says the *Débats*, "were conceived in excellent taste; and the manner in which he discussed and refuted the objections which had been made to the English league, which were those urged by the French opponents of free-trade, met with unqualified success."

The *Reforme* states that the Free-trade Society of Paris had ordered a splendid gold medal to be struck at the French Mint in honour of Mr. Cobden.

## EARTHQUAKE AT LEGHORN.

Accounts from Italy describe a dreadful earthquake which took place on the 14th at Leghorn, and which

has done a great deal of damage in that town and in the neighbouring country. The *Marseilles Courier* of the 19th says:—

"Captain Scribanis, of the Virgile steam packet, which arrived here yesterday from Naples and the coast of Italy, informs us that, on the 14th, a very violent earthquake was felt in Tuscany. The church of St. Michael at Pisa has been much shaken, and in many parts of the country the earth opened in different places, and vomited forth a large quantity of hot and muddy water. At Leghorn the oscillation was so strong that the bells of the churches rang of themselves. The disasters were not so serious, however, in the town as in the surrounding villages, where a great number of houses were thrown down. The terrified inhabitants fled to and remained in the open fields. His Royal Highness the Grand Duke had sent provisions of every kind for their support. On the 10th, at four in the morning, a slight shock of earthquake was felt at Naples, but no disaster occurred."

The *Semaphore* of Marseilles states that the walls of many of the houses of Leghorn had been cracked by the earthquake, and all the shops had been closed, but no life was lost. The shock lasted for about nine seconds. A slight shock had been felt at Genoa, but no calamity had resulted from it.

The province of Mazemas, a district which still retains traces of its volcanic origin, and in which several extinct craters are to be found, has suffered most severely. Whole villages have been actually razed to the ground in the neighbourhood of Faulia, Lorenzana, Orciano, and Casciano, which are at a distance of about six leagues from Leghorn, and which, being in the centre of the electric current, suffered more than any other places. At Volterra, one of the state prisons was thrown down, and a number of the unhappy prisoners were buried in the ruins. The number of persons killed is said to be 38, and there are 140 wounded, of whom 50 are so severely that their lives are in danger. The effects of the earthquake were felt as far as Pisa.

The earthquake has given rise to several natural phenomena. Near Lorenzana, at Orciano, jets of hot water issued from the earth. In another part of the district, the ground opened to a considerable depth, and a lake is now formed on the spot. The farmers have suffered greatly, both in their houses and farms.

"For the last four days," says a correspondent of the *Chronicle*, writing on the 17th inst., "the earth has not ceased to tremble at short intervals; and, in the state of ruin in which the houses of Leghorn are already from the first shocks, a violent shock now coming would assuredly destroy the town completely."

## TAHITI.

A communication from Valparaiso gives the following extracts from a letter dated Tahiti, April 15th, 1846:—

On the 22nd of March, about three o'clock in the afternoon, a few of the natives found their way into the town, and set fire to the houses of Major Fergus, a Polish gentleman in the service of the French, and Mamoi, a native chief in the French interest; the latter they killed before the French were able to interfere. The French soon turned out to check and chastise the natives, and a general firing commenced on both sides, which was kept up till near seven o'clock in the evening. So sudden and unexpected was the attack, that the inhabitants were all struck dumb with consternation, and a scene of the greatest confusion ensued. The foreigners began immediately to remove their families from the town on board the vessels; some hurrying away from the scene of the conflict with their wives and children, and others escaping with their books, papers, and what money they could lay their hands upon. There was a loss in killed and wounded on both sides, but the precise number I have not heard.

Next day, being Sunday, there was a cessation of hostilities, but almost every day since shots have been exchanged, and to-day they had another engagement. The plan adopted by the hostile tribes appears now to be to hang about the neighbourhood of the town and to harass the French without coming to anything like a pitched battle. This morning [the dates of the writer's letter run on consecutively from the 11th to the 15th of April] a party of the natives in the interest of the French went, by permission of the Governor, a short distance from the town, and attempted to plunder the provisions, vegetables, &c., of the enemy, when they were attacked and repulsed by the latter; they had one man shot through the liver, who is now dead, another badly wounded, and a third is missing. The other side lost one man killed. In the second engagement above-mentioned, which was the most serious, the French had a force of about 250 men.

After a sharp firing of about an hour and a half the French and their allies (Kanakas, as the natives are called) returned with two poor devils prisoners. The opposite party lost men in killed in this engagement also. I cannot help alluding to the cruelty of this wretched war of a powerful nation with the poor inoffensive natives, and I do think that the adoption of more conciliating and politic measures on the part of the French would at least mend matters.

The agreement entered into between the Governor and Sir George Seymour was broken soon after the Admiral left, by the sending of the *L'Uranie* to the Leeward Islands, and destroying the beautiful little village on the island of Huahine.

To give a particular account of the events of the last three weeks would require more time than I can spare; but I may remark, that the situation of the French is insecure, and that of the British residents is extremely critical and unpleasant. Neither our lives nor our property are safe, and what makes it worse for us is that the French accuse us of instigating the natives to renew hostilities and with supplying money and ammunition for them to carry on the war with; and so strong is the feeling against us, that the French, even our old acquaintances, keep aloof from us. This feeling of hostility has most unfortunately been communicated to the "French natives, or allies," as they are called, as will appear by the fact that about a fortnight ago, Dr. Henry, of the Salamander, while walking in Dr. Johnston's garden, was fired at by a French native, and wounded in the back of the head. The cloth cap that he had on directed the course of the ball upwards, which saved his life. The ball took with it a part of his scalp. The native was tried by court-martial, and acquitted. The verdict was, "Shot by accident." Dr. Henry is now almost well again. What the British Admiral will say to this verdict when he comes here, is a question of deep interest to us.

In the event of the French troops being beaten by the natives, and driven within the outposts, the commander of our own man-of-war, the Salamander, is strictly forbidden, even in that case, to send his boats to our assistance. We were told publicly by the "Director of European Affairs" (a French functionary) that, should the troops be beaten, French boats should be sent to our relief, to which we should be conducted by a guard of French soldiers, or to the

square of the Government-house, at our option. But though all this seems very fine, we don't much relish "a guard of French soldiers."

Our countryman — had a narrow escape. He, with the rest of us, sent his property on board, and shortly afterwards a thirty-two-pounder was shot slap through his house! He landed his goods a week ago, and was obliged again to pack up, from the uncertainty (in which) we all are in as to the result of all this fighting.

Every one is obliged to keep within doors from six in the evening till six next morning; and as for the pleasure or comfort of living here we are obliged to subsist entirely upon salted and preserved meats.

The following appears as an article of news this afternoon in one of the Valparaiso newspapers:—"Tahiti.—The Hamburg brig *Vigilant* brings us news of two attacks of the natives and French. One was in a valley, and both parties had several killed and wounded; the other was at a tower defended by a small (*un corto*) number of French, who made a sally, attacked (the natives) with the bayonet, and took from them a piece of artillery which they had brought." The same paper adds:—"There was a scarcity of all kinds of provisions. Flour was at twenty dollars a barrel, and biscuit at fifteen dollars."

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

DEFEAT OF THE KAFFIRS.—Intelligence from the Cape of Good Hope to the 16th of June, or of a date fourteen days later than that to which our previous advices reached, was received in town on Wednesday. By this we learn, that an engagement took place between the military, under the command of Colonel Somerset, and the Kaffirs, in the vicinity of the Fish River. The battle appears to have been of five hours' duration, and the result is said to have been a complete triumph on the part of the British. The loss of the Kaffirs in killed and wounded is stated to be between 300 and 400 men, and that of the British forces at only one killed, and sixteen wounded, including among the latter Captain Walpole and Sir H. Darell. This engagement was a fair trial of strength between the parties, as the numbers were less disproportionate than heretofore. The Kaffir force is stated at 8,000 strong. The British force cannot have amounted to half that number. A vast quantity of the cattle which had been stolen from the British settlers had been recovered. There were two battles. In the first, near Fort Peddie, ninety-two Kaffirs are reported killed, and some 200 wounded; and in the second, on June 8th, 200 Kaffirs were killed, and a great number wounded. Upwards of 100 stand of arms, 200 bundles of assegais, and 20 horses were also captured by the British forces. The precise amount of casualties on either side had not been ascertained when the latest accounts came away.

There is no reason to suppose that the present success is likely to be more than a temporary check. The tribes upon which the disgrace has fallen are by no means the most considerable ones; those under Pato, according to the *African Journal*, amounting to only 2,000, those under Umhala to 8,000 men. The sum total of these combined alliances forms no more than one-fourth of the whole confederacy. Upon the remainder, constituting, as it does, so great a majority, the sectional reverses of the subordinate members of the alliance are not likely to weigh heavily.

In the *Times* of yesterday appears a letter from Mr. Sturge, giving extracts from a communication from a settler on the frontier. After referring to the late reverse of the British troops, the writer says:—"A few days before this disgrace, the Kaffir chiefs sent messenger after messenger suing for peace, and offering to relinquish the neutral territory and submit to any terms the Governor might dictate. Tzatzoe was the last messenger; but it was all in vain; a proclamation had gone forth that the Kaffirs were to be chastised, and nothing less would satisfy the colonists."

## FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

LYNCH-LAW LADIES IN MICHIGAN.—On Friday morning, the 10th of July, between the hours of one and two, about forty ladies, from the village of Utica, Michigan, secretly assembled, proceeded to a bowling-alley, armed with axes, hatchets, hammers, &c., and completely demolished it. They had viewed this insidious foe to their domestic peace for some time with an anxious and jealous eye; and, having waited in vain for some legal proceeding against it, determined, for once, to take the law into their own hands. They went at it with much spirit and energy—hacked the bed of the alley, tore down the walls, razed the roof to the ground, and finished with trampling upon and breaking the roof to pieces. The building was eighty feet long, and this work of destruction was accomplished in a little less than an hour.—*Detroit Daily Advertiser*.

SLOW PROGRESS OF FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE.—One Jewish family may now reside in this place (Nurnberg) by a ticket of permission. Jews may, also, now stop here a night, without danger of losing their lives!—*Jewish Chronicle*.

RONGE.—The *Frankfort Journal* inserts a letter from Breslau, of the 12th inst., stating that the Abbé Ronge had been condemned to four months' imprisonment for having celebrated divine service in the town of Lachu without the permission of the authorities. It was supposed that the Abbé would appeal against this decision to the Prussian Ministry, and afterwards to the King.

THE CHOLERA.—Letters from Alexandria announce the appearance of cholera, in a very aggravated form, at Medina, in Arabia Felix. So many as 300 deaths a day had occurred. It appears that the disease broke out at Mocha, subsequently to its quitting Aden, and has travelled northward, along the coast of the Red Sea. Rumours of its appearance at Suez and Cairo had reached Alexandria; but the fact wants confirmation.

EFFECTS OF HEAT.—A Geneva paper relates a phenomenon now occurring in the Valley of Chamouni. The beautiful and ancient grotto of the Arveyron, from which flowed one of the principal sources of the Arve, under a vast arch formed of ice, had disappeared entirely, and become filled up, while the Arveyron has opened itself a fresh issue 500 feet above the valley, and against the sides which support the Mer-de-Glace. A very fine waterfall had consequently been formed, which struck against a rock from the height of 300 feet, whence it flows to the bottom of the valley. The same phenomenon was witnessed twenty years ago, but at the



end of a few months, the water again forced a passage through its former issues, and gradually re-established the grotto of ice.

**THE BATTLE-FIELDS OF THE SUTLEJ.**—LAHORE, MAY 19.—We came *via* Loodianah and Ferozepore, and on our way encamped on the fields of Aliwal and Ferozeshah. Aliwal was a beautiful green plain, the only one I saw between Meerut and this, and seemed intended by nature for a battle-field. A few skeletons were strewn over it; and of the wells one was just drinkable, and the other was so impregnated with gunpowder as to be wholly unfit for use. Ferozeshah presented a very different aspect. It was a sandy waste, dotted with thickets, with the paltry village which gives its name to the place in the midst; and, in place of a few skeletons as in Aliwal, *human bodies lay in clusters of nines and tens all round the village*, and in one spot, about the size of a tent, I counted no fewer than twenty-six mingled with carcasses of horses and camels. The bodies were not skeletons, as in Aliwal, but were, in many instances, quite entire, with the features perfectly distinct, and the flesh baked and blackened by the sun. I never witnessed such a melancholy spectacle; it was enough to sicken one with war.—*Agra Chronicle*, May 30.

**UNFOUNDED REPORT OF VAN AMBURGH'S DEATH.**—It appears that there is not the slightest foundation for the report that Van Amburgh, the famous brute-tamer, had been destroyed by a tigress at Woonsuckett, Rhode Island.

**MR. ROBERT OWEN** arrived in this city on Saturday, from Washington. His efforts in the cause of peace, and the fact that he visited England a few weeks ago, at his own expense, to serve the cause of humanity and avert war, are recent evidences of his devotion to the best interests of the people, which place him among the greatest philanthropists of this or any other age. He is now seventy years of age. The religious world has been gratified to learn, recently, by his addresses to the clergy and the editors, that his views of the moral world recognise the providence of God and the divine mission of our Saviour, and that he is not so heterodox on these points as was generally supposed.—*New York Sun*.

**BUYING A MINISTER.**—The free coloured people of Washington have recently held a fair for the purpose of raising money sufficient to buy their minister, who, it seems, is owned by somebody in that city; and who values him, at least, at three hundred dollars. The fair was held on the 4th of July; and what a degraded and degrading picture does it present of our boasted freedom—our "glorious land of liberty." While thousands and tens of thousands of 4th of July orators were "cracking on" about our free country, a society of poor negroes were within sight of the capitol and White House, bringing their small oblations of merchandise to purchase therewith the freedom of a minister of God.—*The (American) Christian Citizen*, edited by E. Burritt.

**A BESIEGED QUEEN.**—Two new candidates have appeared for the hand of Queen Isabella—the eldest son of the infant Don Francisco D'Ossis, Duke of Cadiz, and one of the Princes of the house of Coburg.

**UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH.**—There are thirteen persons in the United States under sentence of death.

Corporal punishment has been abolished in the Danish army, except in cases of flagrant delinquency.

**EXCHANGING IN HASTE AND REPENTING AT LEISURE.**—Near Belford, a few days ago, when the reapers were at work in a roadside corn-field, the steward doffed his waistcoat—threw it on a bundle of sheaves—and started to bind. He and the labourers having pursued their task until they had got to some distance from the garment, a "navy," passing along the road, espied it, untended, on the sheaves, and, leaping the fence, substituted his own vest for the steward's—salvage his conscience (if he had any) with an abridgment of the old adage, "Exchange is no robbery." A mason, tramping to the railway with his wife in search of a job, saw the transaction and reported it to the reapers. The navy's waistcoat was then "brought up for examination." Ragged and greasy, it was not fit to be handled; so the steward held it aloft on the point of a sickle, and dangled it before the eyes of his fellow-labourers, much to their merriment (especially as the loss was his—not theirs). But lo! three sovereigns drop from the frowzy garment!!! The exchange, after all, was not so unfair a one as had at first been thought. The rogue (he must have been a Patlander) had forgotten the lining when he abandoned his pockets. But, remembering his error, he returned to the harvest-field, an abject penitent, and implored restitution. He was told, however, that he had the bargain of his own making, and must abide by his choice.—*Gateshead Observer*.

**LOCUSTS.**—A large flight of locusts passed over the town of Sunderland on Monday week. They hovered over the neighbourhood of Hendon, and numbers alighted on the hedges there, till, on a crowd beginning to collect, they took flight towards the south. They appeared to conduct their migration in close company. Several of them were caught. [A remarkably fine specimen of the *Grillus migratorius*, or wandering locust, was taken on the wing in Broad-street, in this city, says the *Bath Journal*, near the Post-office, on Saturday morning.]

**IRISH MAGISTRATES.**—The following gentlemen, who were dismissed from the magistracy for attending repeal meetings, have been restored:—Lord Ffrench; Daniel O'Connell, M.P.; Sir Michael Dillon Belew, Bart.; H. Bridgeman, M.P.; Pierce S. Butler, M.P.; Cornelius O'Brien, M.P.; R. A. Fitzgerald, M.P.; Caleb Powell, M.P.; Daniel Clanchy; Nicholas Boylan; Francis Comyn; Christopher Nugent; J. M. McDonnell, M.P.; R. De Verdon. Sir W. Verner, M.P., better known as Colonel Verner, who was dismissed for his Orange ebullitions, Sir Richard Musgrave, Mr. J. A. O'Neill, who resigned, have also been restored.

Sir Charles Grey has been appointed Governor of Jamaica.—*Morning Chronicle*.

## ABOLITION OF MILITARY FLOGGING.

A public meeting was held on Wednesday last, at Exeter-hall, for the formation of a Society to promote the abolition of flogging in the army and navy. There was a crowded attendance, comprising a great number of ladies. Shortly before the chair was taken, seven privates of the grenadier guards entered the hall, and were loudly cheered. The chair was occupied by Mr. Wakley, M.P.; he was supported on the platform by Mr. H. Bridgeman, M.P., Mr. Curteis, M.P., Mr. G. Thompson, Mr. F. Lenthall, Mr. F. Haynes, Dr. Oxley, Mr. H. M. May, Mr. J. Meredith, Mr. H. Vincent, Mr. J. Christy, Mr. Luke Hansard, Dr. Carlile, Mr. F. Douglass (the American slave), Mr. H. C. Wright (of Philadelphia), Mr. W. L. Garrison (of Boston, U.S.), &c., &c.

Mr. WAKLEY made an effective speech; the recent proceedings at Hounslow, his own professional knowledge, and the excited state of public feeling on the question, having all been turned to good account. Speaking professionally, he remarked, that the punishment of flogging is so dangerous that no medical opinion could guarantee its safety at any time:—

A slight scratch on the skin will produce erysipelas and death; a trifling injury to the extremity of the finger will produce lock-jaw and death; even cutting the nail too closely has frequently produced death; the cutting of a corn too closely has likewise frequently produced death. But still it is held that lacerating, cutting, scoring, pounding, mincing the backs of human beings, will not produce death; and some persons speak of it as if it were not a disagreeable operation!

He had heard it said some nights before, that unless the punishment of the lash were allowed, the chances were that the men would shoot their own officers in battle. It seems to be supposed from this that the privates have such peculiarities of human feeling that they are likely to shoot their officers if their officers don't flog them! There is something so curious in the logic of that argument that he felt himself at a loss to understand it. Mr. Wakley mentioned a circumstance which seemed to startle the meeting. Under the act of Parliament, the Commander-in-chief has the power to grant warrants to commanding-officers to hold district courts-martial; the regimental courts-martial may be held without a warrant from the Commander-in-chief. Now, what was the date of the warrant under which White was punished? The 26th of April. When did he commit his offence? Not until the 5th of June. "I have not adverted to this circumstance before; but, after the very unjust attacks that have been made upon me, I really consider I may be pardoned for adverting to the circumstance." Under such a mode of administering justice, he did not think that one man in thirty has been acquitted. It is true that the approbation of the commanding-officer has to be received before the sentence is executed; but when does the commanding-officer disapprove of a sentence which has been passed by seven officers of the regiment, the inquiry having been instituted at the instigation of the commander of that regiment? In conclusion, Mr. Wakley stated that he had received a cheque for £5 for Private Mathewson of the Seventh Hussars from Mr. Collett the member for Athlone, and a like sum in aid of the Society; and that Mr. Luke Hansard had contributed £20 towards the general fund.

Mr. F. LENTHALL, and Dr. CARLILE, then addressed the meeting in support of a series of resolutions declaring "the practice of scourging and lacerating the bodies of soldiers and sailors with the cat o' nine tails to be at once cruel and disgusting, and a disgrace to the British nation"—"that the constitutional danger of maintaining a standing army in time of peace is exactly proportioned to the extent in which the soldier loves the character and feelings of a citizen"—"that the will of the British nation has decreed that the practice shall for ever be abolished"—"that the sentence of flogging for an insignificant offence may prove a sentence of death"—"that this meeting recommends short periods of enlistment, and rewards and promotions for good conduct, and a benignant and generous behaviour towards soldiers and sailors."

Mr. BRIDGEMAN, M.P., said he had commanded a company of grenadiers for five years, in which not one of them was flogged. If that were so, could not discipline be maintained without flogging? A sentence of fifty lashes could be so inflicted as to exceed in severity a sentence of three hundred. He knew a case where the sentence was 1,000 lashes, but the staff-surgeon took the man down after seventy-five, for he could not bear another. He knew a grenadier who cut his throat in the hospital after being flogged.

Mr. JOHNSON NEALE, barrister, and formerly officer in the army, said, that if the lash were defended, on the ground of the infliction of physical anguish, the rack ought not to have been abolished. It could only then be vindicated as a degradation. But when the man was pitied and sympathised with and applauded for his fortitude, where was the degradation then?

Mr. DICKENSON spoke as one of a deputation for Hounslow, and Mr. LUKE HANSARD expressed his cordial support of the movement.

Mr. EDWARDS produced a real cat, which excited a sensation of horror—it was a handle a foot and a half long, with nine stout cords, each nine times knotted.

Mr. CURTEIS, M.P., defended the officers, who had only done their duty; but he praised the coroner, and expressed his wish to abolish flogging.

Mr. HENRY VINCENT made an eloquent appeal on behalf of the soldier,—"slave in body, and slave in soul!"

Mr. CLEAVE, who had served fourteen years in the navy, Mr. WRIGHT, of America, Mr. GEORGE THOMPSON, Mr. PEARSE, and Mr. WATTS, sailors, and Mr. MORRIS, a soldier, bore testimony to the horrible effects of the system. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

That a society be now formed to be called "The Flogging Abolition Society," and that a committee, consisting of the following gentlemen, with power to add to their number, be appointed to carry its objects into effect:—J. Brotherton, Esq., M.P., J. W. Boyles, Esq., the Rev. J. T. Cuffe, M.A., T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., J. Drakard, Esq., W. Ewart,

Esq., M.P., J. Hastings, Esq., M.D., J. Meredith, Esq., W. B. S. Taylor, A.M., G. Thompson, Esq., W. Williams, Esq., M.P. That Mr. H. May and Mr. T. Plume be the Secretaries.

Meetings have also been held at Woolwich, and in other parts of the country, to condemn this unnatural system.

## THE ANDOVER UNION INQUIRY.

The Parliamentary committee on the affairs of the Andover Union have closed their labours and presented their report to the House of Commons. The document itself is too long for reproduction in our columns, but the following are its most prominent features:—The first part of the report is on the administration of the law in the Andover Union, and condemns it as full of irregularity, and marked by harshness. The committee say of Mr. Parker, who was Assistant-Commissioner for May, 1842, that they "have received evidence of Mr. Parker's zeal and laboriousness, which renders it impossible for them to attribute his imperfect superintendence of the Andover Union to idleness or intentional neglect." In another resolution, they say that "the great extent of Mr. Parker's district, the large number of Unions comprised in it, and the various heavy special calls made upon his time by the Poor-law Commissioners," have rendered it almost impossible for him to pay visits to each of the Unions under his care numerous or long enough for effective inspection of the workhouses. In a third resolution they speak of representations of abuses made, by Mr. Parker, which have met with no attention from the Poor-law Commissioners, and add, "that these are not the only circumstances disclosed in the evidence which have led the committee to the conviction that the Poor-law Commissioners have not given that encouragement to their Assistant Commissioners in the detection and removal of abuses, which would have been the best security for the zealous services of their subordinate officers." As regards the inquiry at Andover, the suspension of the inquiry of the 9th of September by the Poor-law Commissioners, and their overruling the five days' adjournment granted by Mr. Parker afterwards for the preparation of the master's defence, are condemned; and the committee attribute both proceedings to "a determination on the part of the Poor-law Commissioners to bring the inquiry, if possible, to a close, and so stop the public criticism and excitement which it provoked." Of Mr. Parker's mode of conducting it, they say there is nothing in the objections stated by the Poor-law Commissioners which affords a justification of their conduct in calling on him to resign. The dismissals of Mr. Parker and Mr. Day are condemned in the following resolutions:—

That, after full consideration of the whole case, whatever opinion the Commissioners may have entertained with regard to Mr. Parker's mode of conducting the Andover Inquiry, or his defective superintendence of the Andover Union, the time and the manner of Mr. Parker's removal from his office were such as to give him just cause of complaint, and were not consistent with a discreet exercise of the power of dismissing their subordinate officers which the law had entrusted to the Commissioners.

That the Committee, after considering the statement made to them by Mr. Day, and the correspondence on the subject of his resignation which he has produced, and the explanations with reference to that correspondence which have been given by the Poor-law Commissioners, are of opinion that the Poor-law Commissioners have altogether failed to justify their removal of Mr. Day from the office of Assistant-Commissioner.

That, in both cases, the time of the compulsory resignation had been the means of cruel injustice; Mr. Parker having been called on to resign before the excitement arising out of the Andover inquiry had subsided, and Mr. Day at the close of the inquiry into the South Wales disturbances in 1843; so as necessarily to lead the public to ascribe to both blame which the commissioners acknowledge to be unmerited, and to divert existing public dissatisfaction from the poor-law commissioners, by concentrating it on Mr. Parker and Mr. Day respectively.

The last is a general resolution on the whole case:—

That, on a review of the proceedings of the commissioners with respect to the Andover inquiries, and towards Mr. Parker and Mr. Day, the committee are of opinion that their conduct has been irregular and arbitrary, not in accordance with the statute under which they exercise their functions, and such as to shake public confidence in their administration of the law.

This last resolution was proposed by Mr. D'Israeli, and carried by eight to four—a majority which would have been increased by two, but for the absence of Mr. Duncombe and Mr. Wakley.

**THE MANCHESTER PUBLIC PARKS**, which have been purchased by voluntary subscriptions, and are devoted to the free and uncontrolled recreation and amusement of the working community in that densely populated district, were opened on Saturday, amid great ceremony and rejoicings. The day was kept as a general holiday. There was a procession of the committee, town council, and other gentlemen, from the Town-hall, with banners and music. The crowd was immense. The Peel-park was opened first, by the Mayor, W. B. Watkins, Esq., in a suitable address, in which he declared it to be open, henceforth and for ever, free to the public. He mentioned that no fewer than 5,000 working men had contributed towards the park fund. The other parks (the Queen's-park and Phillips'-park) were opened with similar formalities. In the evening, there was a great meeting of the subscribers in the Town-hall, the Mayor presiding.

**REVISING BARRISTERS.**—The following gentlemen have been appointed by Mr. Justice Patteson to revise the list of voters for the ensuing year:—Derbyshire (North), Mr. Sergeant Clarke; (South, and the borough of Derby), Richard Wildman, Esq. Lincolnshire (South), J. Mellor, Esq.; (North, and the city of Lincoln), Edward H. Chamberlain, Esq. Nottinghamshire (South, and the borough of Newark), R. Miller, Esq.; (North, town of Nottingham), and East Redford), Graham Willmore, Esq. Leicestershire (South, and borough of Leicester), C. J. Gall, Esq.; (North, and Rutlandshire), J. Hildyard, Esq.



## LITERATURE.

*The Debater: A new Theory of the Art of Speaking; being a Series of Complete Debates, Outlines of Debates, and Questions for Discussion; with References to the best Sources of Information on each particular topic.* By FREDERIC ROWTON, Lecturer on General Literature, Author of "Capital Punishment Reviewed," &c., &c. pp. 294. London: Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.

"THIS volume," says the author, "is the result of a conviction that a fundamental error prevails in the mode which is at present adopted to convey instruction in the Art of Speaking." That error consists in attending exclusively, or too much, to "the study and practice of recitation." "Elocution," to quote again from the Introduction, "is doubtless an important part of the art of speech, but it is not the whole of it. The voice, the gesture, the manner, the action, and the expression are, beyond question, matters that demand great care and attention; but the education and training of the mind are greater matters still." It is impossible to dissent from this sound doctrine. The question is—Does Mr. Rowton succeed in his endeavour to make it practical? will his book promote the art of speaking, in the large sense in which he describes it? We think so. The "debates," though not escaping marks of "faunty rhetoric," such as youthful orators delight in, are fair representations of opposite sides of the questions discussed; the "outlines of debates" suggest a great variety of thoughts and arguments that may be followed out with advantage to the mental faculties; and the "questions for discussion" will guide to many works, and parts of works, treating on the particular points started. We must say that there is an "Index," a very easy thing (considering its value) to be done, yet a thing that is very often neglected.

*Autobiography of the late William Jones, M.A.* Author of the "History of the Waldenses," "Biblical Cyclopedia," "Lectures on Ecclesiastical History," &c., &c. Edited by his Son. pp. 166. London: John Snow.

MR. JONES was a man of sterling moral and religious worth. He had decided principles, and though we do not profess them all, we admire the honesty and firmness with which they were held. Sacrifices he is well known to have made for them, and there can be little doubt that he made many which are unknown. The position he acquired as an author was highly respectable. He was not of brilliant parts, but he was diligent, careful, persevering, and thus obtained a solid repute which might be envied by many a possessor of transcendent abilities. Some of his works are of very considerable value, and few of them are without claims to respectful attention and serious perusal. We have some doubts as to the expediency of publishing this "Autobiography." "The wishes of esteemed friends," are pleaded as the motive, as usual—how much have "esteemed friends" to answer for in the matter of books! The book is not without interest of a certain sort. The notices, literary, denominational, and personal, which it contains, are of the kind to while away a vacant hour. But what can be expected of a man who has entered on his "eighty-third year?" What may naturally be expected will be here found. The writer fights all his battles "o'er again"—writes all his books o'er again—praising them with a simple warmth which is past suspicion, and quoting at length the praises of others with the utmost gravity. We do not doubt that he believed and felt all he said—but is it wise to publish it to the world?

*Wild Flowers; or, Poetic Gleanings from Natural Objects, and Topics of Religious, Moral, and Philanthropic Interest.* By Miss C. S. PIER. London: John Snow.

THERE are two kinds of poetry—the first of words, and the second of things. The latter of these alone breathes the heaven-born spirit. With such there is perceptible a true and deep philosophy in all external objects, which are but types to his mind of corresponding truths. When such a spirit strikes the lyre, its tones vibrate through the human heart, and speak with an authority which is irresistible. It is a serious thing to mistake one's vocation in this matter. Productions like that before us may be everything but poetical. Modest, unaffected, sprightly, and morally graceful, but wanting the divine spark—how far better that such talent should be thrown into a more useful and appropriate channel. These "Wild Flowers" manifest a cultivated and refined taste, and they breathe a tender and happy spirit; and if they cannot lay claim to the great attributes of poetry, they are at least calculated to refresh and instruct the reader.

*The Gardener's Wife.* A Memoir of Eleanor Elliot. By J. OSWALD JACKSON. London: Ward and Co.

CHRISTIAN biography, when the subjects are judiciously selected, seldom fails to interest, and is always edifying. The memoir that stands at the head of this notice is a well-written sketch of a very pious and useful character. The perusal of it has afforded us sincere pleasure. We, however, regret that the author has introduced into it what we cannot but regard as an unscriptural and pernicious opinion—an opinion, we fear, which may occasion a great deal of pain to many minds, if it do not prove a stumbling-block to their further progress in godliness. The opinion to which we allude is expressed in the following words:—"She often dwelt upon her own sinfulness, and the willingness of Jesus Christ to save her, the delight she sometimes took in prayer, and the preciousness of some parts of the Bible, and so on; but after all she was not a converted woman. She sometimes hoped she was, but more frequently had doubts about it. She would not say she *knew* that she had passed from death unto life. But all true Christians can. She *hoped* that God would pardon her sins; indeed, she believed He would when she obtained a saving faith; but she

did not *know* that God had pardoned her, and that she had been accepted by Him for Christ's sake. But all true Christians do know this." Passages of Scripture are quoted by the author in support of the opinion here conveyed; but they fail, in our judgment, to establish his position. We cannot consider it a scriptural tenet that the assurance of faith is essential to salvation. With this exception we cordially recommend "The Gardener's Wife" as a little book that cannot fail to interest the serious reader, and one that is eminently adapted to do good.

*The Useful Life and Joyful Death of Miss Mary Simpson, of Kilwinning.* By the Rev. FERGUS FERGUSON, B.A., Glasgow. With the Sermon preached on the occasion of her death, by the Rev. JOHN KIRK, Edinburgh. London: Ward and Co.

THE above is a pleasing and useful accession to the biography of pious females. The style is simple and vigorous, and the evident aim of the author is to stimulate to excellence by a faithful exhibition of its attractions as embodied in the subject of the narrative. In Miss Simpson were united a masculine energy of mind to the warmest affections of woman, and she consecrated both to an untiring effort for the promotion of God's glory and the extension of his kingdom. It is scarcely possible to rise from the perusal of this little book without having the mind elevated and the heart softened; and we owe many thanks to the author for introducing us to so much excellence.

*The Benighted Traveller, a Tale; and other Poems.* By EDWARD FRANCIS HUGHES. London: Bartlett.

THE author of this little book tells us "it is every one's right to make known his thoughts in any form he may choose, and it is as much his right to print them as it is to speak them." He has made known some of his in the shape of what he terms poetry; but we strongly advise him, that as he "wishes to be great," he should seek for distinction in any direction rather than on Mount Parnassus. He has evidently mistaken his road; and we regret that one who appears amiable and pious should have so signally failed in discerning the forte where his strength lay. He says:—

"I wish to be immortal,  
But cannot find of fame the portal;  
If 'tis to kill, paint, carve, or play,  
Or be an actor, the way  
I fear I shall not soon discover  
To fame, and must the search give over;  
If 'tis to write, in verse or prose,  
Like Milton, Homer, or some of those,  
I'll try, at least, to find fame's portal,  
To enter, and to be immortal."

It will be seen by the reader, from this quotation, that our author's aspirations are of a somewhat ambitious order; but how far his endeavours are likely to prove successful, those who may read his little volume will be best able to determine.

*Letters on Puritanism and Nonconformity.* Second Series. By Sir J. BICKERTON WILLIAMS, Knt., LL.D., F.S.A. London: Jackson and Walford.

WE have been much gratified by the perusal of this volume, and in our judgment the author has conferred a lasting obligation upon the whole Dissenting community by the publication of these letters. He evidently possessed a choice and ample selection of materials for his work, and has displayed a judgment of no ordinary sagacity in the use he has made of that selection. Within the limits of a comparatively small volume he has introduced the names of a large proportion of the Puritan and Nonconformist divines, and has furnished an amount of information which fully establishes their claim to rank amongst the most learned and the most pious men of their age. Nor has our author excluded from his notice distinguished laymen and honourable women who in their day were identified with the Puritan and Nonconformist bodies. He has mentioned a considerable number, and has given us a sufficient insight into their character to convince every intelligent and candid reader that they belonged to the excellent of the earth.

The publication of these letters we hail with peculiar satisfaction at the present time, and chiefly for the following reasons, viz., the Nonconformist body are, we fear, lamentably ignorant of the noble race of men from whom they sprung, whereas this book is eminently adapted to awaken the interest of the public mind, and to lead many persons to inquiry and reading on the subject. Moreover, the contemplation of so much excellence, of so high an order as these letters bring to light, cannot fail to exert a healthful influence on the formation of character. The style in which the book is written we can also commend. It is chaste, and vigorous, and manly. The spirit which pervades it is eminently Christian, equally marked by intelligence and piety. No person of well-regulated mind can rise from a perusal of it without feeling his purest sympathies awakened and his best principles strongly excited, his understanding informed, and his heart both humbled and encouraged. We earnestly recommend the book as one likely to do much good.

DINNER TO MR. BRIGHT, M.P.—A public dinner was given to Mr. Bright, M.P., at Durham, on Tuesday; the Mayor, Mr. J. Branwell, presiding. Mr. Bright, in returning thanks, intimated that he would not stand for the representation of the borough again, not wishing to be a party to either the further corruption or further purity of election in Durham.

A FREE PRESS.—The Earl of Aberdeen, in giving the toast of "The Press" at a recent agricultural meeting in the north of Scotland, observed:—"There are advantages that render the press a mighty benefit to the country. Public men might sometimes feel they were freely, and perhaps they might think unjustly, dealt with. But the best atmosphere in which they could live was that of free discussion; and he hoped the press would always continue to advocate the true interests of the people, and merit the national respect as it had done" [loud cheers].

## THE FAMILY COMPANION.

HOMŒOPATHY.—The *New York Evening Post* says there are fifty physicians in that city who practise on the homœopathic principle; all educated and scientific men, and many of them converts from the old system.

A French chemist has discovered a method for producing gas for illumination from water. He charges the hydrogen from aqueous vapour strongly with carbonaceous vapours from oil of gas-tar or any other oil, and produces a brilliant white light.

VERY COOL.—A gentleman in town, whose skylights were smashed and his house deluged by the late storm of hail, despatched his servant to his glazier, requesting his immediate attendance to repair the damage. "Tell your master," said the glazier, who was almost pulled to pieces by similar applicants, "I will put down his name, and shall probably wait upon him in about a fortnight!"

THE MENAI STRAITS TUNNEL.—The iron tube, or tunnel, by means of which the Chester and Holyhead railway is to be carried across the Menai Straits, will require the extraordinary quantity of eight thousand tons of iron plates to form it.

From one hundred and fifty to two hundred steamers arrive at, and depart from, the Bromielaw, Glasgow, in a day.

It is a startling yet indisputable fact, that if we decide according to numbers, Paganism must be pronounced to be the religion of the British empire. The numerical order of the four great religious distinctions prevailing in the empire is—first, Paganism; second, Mahomedanism; third, Protestantism; fourth, Romanism.

The only living brother of Napoleon is now the Prince de Montfort, ex-King of Westphalia, who is in his sixty-second year.

A COINCIDENCE.—At the York August meeting on Thursday, the Prince of Wales's stake was won by Lord George Bentinck's Slander, beating a large field. On the same day, in the House of Lords, Lord George Bentinck's slander was beaten by Lord Lyndhurst's explanation. It follows that slander is not always a winner.—*Examiner*.

A LENGTHY JUDGMENT.—In the Prerogative Court, on Thursday week, Sir H. Jenner Fust was just nine hours in delivering his decision on a will case, *Frere v. Peacock*. The property involved in the decision of the court was about £20,000, and the costs on both sides were ordered to be paid out of the estate.

AMERICAN LIBERTY.—At the anti-slavery meeting, held in London on Monday evening week, the celebrated Mr. Lloyd Garrison told his hearers that the State of Georgia had set a price of 5,000 dollars on his head, and that it had received the sanction of the Government.

CURIOUS PLANT.—The *liebiscus mutabilis*, a plant growing in the West Indies, is, in the morning, of a pale French white colour; at noon, a delicate pink; and, in the evening, crimson.

INSURANCE VOIDED BY SEICIDE.—The Court of Exchequer has decided that if a man voluntarily kills himself, whether sane or not, a policy of insurance on his life, containing the usual clauses relative to persons dying by their own hands, is void.

LINDLEY MURRAY, the celebrated grammarian, was an American by birth, and a member of the Society of Friends. He acquired a fortune by mercantile pursuits in his native country, came to England in 1784, and published his grammar in 1795.

DISCOURAGEMENT TO SNOBBISHNESS.—The *Times* of Monday inserts a pompous account of the proceedings attending the marriage of the eldest daughter of the Earl of Gainsborough, the Lady Louisa Noel, to Andrew Agnew, Esq., eldest son of Sir Andrew Agnew, of Lochnaw Castle, North Britain, describing the after festivities and the titled persons present, as an advertisement.

Mendelssohn, the composer, has just completed a new oratorio, called "Elijah," which is spoken of as his greatest musical achievement. It is to be performed at the approaching Birmingham Musical Festival.

ICE FROM GREENLAND.—An importation of ice has just taken place from Greenland, by a ship named the *Edgecumbe*, having on board 110 tons weight of this singular article of merchandise.

HINT TO THE LADIES.—Some of Foster's peculiarities are amusing. He disliked fancy work, and observed, on being shown a bit of worsted work, with a great deal of red in it, that "it was red with the blood of murdered time;" thus differing from Johnson, who wished that gentlemen could be taught the use of the needle.—*Fraser*.

A venerable man says, "Let the slandered take comfort—it is only at fruit-trees that thieves throw stones."

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.—The sixteenth meeting will be held at Southampton, in the week commencing 11th of September.

It is said that Mr. Austin has realised £45,000 this session, by his services as an advocate before the railway committees.

In 1820 there were 51,014 acres of land employed in hop cultivation; in 1830, 46,726 acres; and in 1840, but 40,000 acres. Is this Father Mathew's doing?

CURE FOR THE CATERPILLAR.—A gentleman at Galashiels has discovered that exhausted bark spread on the surface, round the roots of gooseberry bushes, is an effectual remedy for caterpillar. Two or three years ago he spread a considerable quantity of it round the roots of all the bushes in his garden, except one or two. Those missed were seriously injured by the caterpillar; all the others were perfectly saved. A more simple and cheap remedy could scarcely be wished for.

MURDER DISCOVERED BY RAVENS.—Many of the superstitious notions concerning the raven may have their foundation in the fact that the bird's acute sense enables him to detect the presence of dead bodies, where human senses would fail to impart any information. Murderers have thus been discovered, and ignorance has ascribed to the raven supernatural powers. The following account of one of these events is generally put forth as entitled to credit, and it does not contradict any natural law:—A gentleman was murdered in his bed at an inn; the body was taken to a river near the house; and to prevent it from rising, the murderer passed a stake through it, making one end fast in the mud. When this was done a very small part of the stake still appeared above the water. In a few days afterwards some ravens perched near the spot, over which they were constantly flying and croaking. Their numbers increased, and the peasants, alarmed at such an unusual appearance, attempted to drive them away, but the birds persisted in keeping close to a particular part of the



river, as if searching for something therein. This induced the people to examine the water, but nothing was seen save the end of the stake. This was drawn up, when, to the surprise of the spectators, a body rose to the surface. Suspicion became excited; the marks of cart-wheels were traced from the river to the inn. The owner was apprehended, and, learning the above particulars, was terror-stricken, and confessed his crime. The ravens were probably at first attracted by the effluvia from the decaying body, and one or two would, of course, soon attract numbers. —*Sharpe's London Magazine.*

**BARON PLATT A BUTLER.**—The worthy baron travelled nearly all Friday night, in order to be in Wells as early as possible on the following morning. On reaching one of the inns on the road, finding that Boniface had retired to the arms of Morpheus, or of his better half, his lordship attacked the door with such vehemence, that locks, bolts, and bars flew back, and admittance was gained in a trice. Having fortified the inner man, his lordship was proceeding from the room he had occupied to his carriage, when he met "mine host." "What have I to pay?" he asked. "Oh, nothing, nothing," was the answer; "we don't charge butlers when they bring their masters here." The worthy justice shook his sides with laughter at the idea of her Majesty's representative being taken for a butler; and the sides of the generous host shook under very different emotions when he discovered that he had made so great a mistake.

**CUSTOM.**—Custom is a violent and treacherous school-mistress. She, by little and little, slyly and unperceived, slips in the foot of her authority; but having by this gentle and humble beginning, with the benefit of time, fixed and established it, she then unmasks a furious and tyrannical countenance, against which we have no more the courage or the power so much as to lift up our eyes. —*Montaigne.*

**WHITE AND BROWN BREAD.**—"Mistaken notions," says the *Literary Gazette*, "respecting the quality of different sorts of bread have given rise to much waste. The general belief is, that the bread made of the finest flour is the best, and that whiteness is the proof of its quality; but both these opinions are popular errors. The whiteness may be, and generally is, communicated by alum, to the injury of the consumer; and it is well known by men of science, that the bread of unrefined flour will sustain life, while that made with the refined will not. Keep a man on brown bread and water, and he will live and enjoy good health; give him white bread and water only, and he will gradually sicken and die."

**AN ENTHUSIAST.**—We read in a Belgian journal—"The sale of the gallery of paintings of M. Van N., of Brussels, who died in the course of the last month, is advertised. This celebrated amateur not only devoted his life, but sacrificed the whole of his fortune, which originally produced him a revenue of 40,000*fr.* a year, to his passion for possessing the masterpieces of the great Flemish artists. Reduced by this to the want of even the necessities of life, he could not be induced to part with even one of his cherished treasures. At last, an old servant, who continued to serve him without wages, converted the gallery into a source for the maintenance of his master and himself, by applying the gratuities given him for showing the splendid collection to visitors in purchasing food for them both. A few years ago the faithful and affectionate old servant died, and M. Van N., hopeless of finding another upon the same terms, took the office upon himself. When visitors came to view the gallery, he put on the old livery, and attended them through it, displaying a critical acquaintance with the merits of each picture that delighted all and astonished those who were able to appreciate his erudition. Sometimes the visitors, supposing him to be really the servant, would make the master the subject of sarcastic observations, some calling him an eccentric fool, and others a madman, and wondering that his friends did not have him declared a lunatic. All this he listened to either with perfect indifference, or making palliating excuses as his old servant used to do, and, when their curiosity was satisfied, holding out his hand for the accustomed fee."

**GRACE BEFORE MEAT.**—When a person commended very zealously the piety of the Emperor Alexander, Foster remarked, "Yes, sir, a very good man; very devout: no doubt he said grace before he swallowed Poland." —*Fraser.*

**LEAGUE OF UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD.**—Elihu Burritt, the eminent transatlantic scholar and philanthropist, is now traversing the country with the object of promoting a League of Universal Brotherhood. The League is to consist of persons who have signed the following pledge:—

"Believing all war to be inconsistent with the spirit of Christianity, and destructive of the best interests of mankind, I do hereby pledge myself never to enlist or enter into any army or navy, or to yield any voluntary support or sanction to the preparation for, or prosecution of, any war, by whomsoever or for whatsoever proposed, declared, or waged. And I do hereby associate myself with all persons, of whatever country, condition, or colour, who have signed, or shall hereafter sign, this pledge, in a 'League of Universal Brotherhood;' whose object shall be to employ all legitimate and moral means for the abolition of all war, and all the spirit and all the manifestations of war, throughout the world; for the abolition of all restrictions upon international correspondence, and friendly intercourse, and of whatever else tends to make enemies of nations, or prevents their fusion into one peaceful brotherhood; for the abolition of all institutions and customs which do not recognise and respect the image of God and a human brother in every man, of whatever clime, colour, or condition of humanity."

At a meeting at Bristol last week Mr. Burritt said:—"He thought he might, perhaps, find 200 or 300 in this country, and a like number in America, and perhaps 50 in France, who would sign this pledge, and thus form a nucleus for the league; but no sooner had the pledge been drawn up, than he found the social influence which had been evolved had far outrun his most sanguine expectations. He intended to remain in this country three or four months, and then proceed to France to see what he could do there: if he could only interest fifty minds, it would form a nucleus around which others might gather. He then proposed to go to Germany. Several persons signed the pledge at the close of the meeting."

**STATE EDUCATION.**—It is not impossible that state education, in the ages to come, may be accounted an object of statesmanship in quite as great a degree as state religion has been in the ages past; and with this possibility, even as a bare possibility, in view, we venture to ask, whether there be not some danger lest this new means of power over the popular mind, should become only another instrument of arbitrary rule, after the manner of the old, being used as a coadjutor of the old, in these disjointed times, or, where that might not be practicable, being raised into its place? If national

religions, in the hands of bad men, have become so often little better than so many mainsprings of state policy, and engines of oppression, may not national education be perverted after the same manner? It may be that school instruction is somewhat less liable to such abuse than direct religious instruction; but it is nothing that the main plea against distrust should be, that the amount of mischief, in the case of bad management, is not likely to be quite so great in the one case as in the other, while both may be made to bear upon vitiated notions of human duty, and while both are found to set up the same arbitrary species of machinery, which may not only serve its own evil purpose, but may operate as a precedent, so as to give facility to the accomplishment of a thousand evil purposes besides. —*Dr. Vaughan's Age of Great Cities.*

**RUMOURS OF SYSTEMATIC BUTCHERY.**—Letters which have just been received from Gibraltar mention a report, that General Cavaignac had, in the province of Oran, surrounded and put to death an Arab tribe, consisting of 600 men, women, and children; that the war is now carried on on the principle of extermination, and that the French soldiers receive ten francs for every pair of human ears they bring in, whatever the age or sex of the original owners of these ears may have been. —*Chronicle.*

**PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.**—From returns which have been laid before Parliament it appears that the public income of the United Kingdom has, for some years past, been as follows:—In 1843, it was £56,935,022; in 1844, £58,590,217; and in 1845, £57,602,268. The expenditure was in 1843, £55,601,740 (leaving a surplus of £1,433,283); in 1844 it was £55,103,647 (leaving a surplus of £3,486,570); and in 1845 it was £53,873,063 (leaving a surplus of £3,729,205).

**EDUCATION AT NORTH WALSHAM.**—A movement has originated in this town in favour of unsectarian education. A committee of gentlemen, including Independents, Baptists, and Wesleyans, have taken the matter up, and intend, as soon as possible, to open a school on the British system, which will receive the children of every religious community. The theological tenets of the parents are not to exclude the children from its benefits; and there will be no compulsion in regard to Sabbath-school attendance. —*Norfolk News.*

#### BIRTHS.

August 14, the wife of Mr. SAMUEL MARTIN, minister of Westminster-chapel, Westminster, of a daughter.  
August 16, the wife Mr. WILLIAM GRIFFITHS, minister, Tutbury, Staffordshire, of a son.  
August 17, at Upton-grove, the residence of her brother, Samuel Gurney, jun., Esq., the lady of ERNEST BUNSEN, Esq., son of his Excellency the Prussian Minister, of a son.  
August 20, at 31, Edward-street, Hampstead-road, the wife of Mr. W. P. LYON, minister, of a son.

#### MARRIAGES.

August 18, at the Independent Methodist chapel, Nelson-street, Lancaster, by James T. Tomlinson, minister, JOHN STEWART to ELIZABETH BLAND. This being the first marriage celebrated in this place of worship, the happy couple were presented with a bible and a copy of Wesley's hymns.  
August 20, at Long Sutton, by Dr. Simpson, Mr. JOSEPH NEWMAN, of Auckland, New Zealand, to Miss CAROLINE EWEN, daughter of the late Benjamin Ewen, Esq., of Tyd St. Giles, Lincolnshire.  
August 20, at Broadmead chapel, Bristol, by Mr. B. P. Pratten, Mr. W. S. M. AITCHISON, Baptist minister, Barnstaple, to Miss BRINTON, of King's-square, Bristol.  
August 20, at Wandsworth chapel, by the pastor, Mr. J. E. Richards, Mr. GEORGE SANDERS to SARAH, youngest daughter of the late Mr. George PHILLIPS, of Wandsworth, Surrey.

#### DEATHS.

July 12, in the Island of Jamaica, BENJAMIN JOSEPH MILLARD, the son of Mr. B. Millard, minister, aged three years and nine months. His death was occasioned, after an illness of only a few days, by congestion on the brain.  
August 13, at Cheshunt, deeply regretted by all who knew her, REBECCA, the beloved wife of Mr. Richard BAYNES, of No. 28, Paternoster-row. After severe and protracted illness, she sweetly fell asleep in Jesus.  
August 16, at Beaconsfield, in the 25th year of his age, of lingering consumption, JAMES, eldest son of Mr. James RUSSELL.  
August 20, aged 76, much respected, Mr. JAMES PEARSON, of Claremont-terrace, Pentonville, formerly of Cheapside.  
Lately, at Llandover, Carmarthenshire, Mr. E. REES, minister of the Independent church in that place. He left behind him a numerous family to mourn his untimely loss. Mr. Rees had not been settled for more than nine months at Llandover, but it pleased his Divine Master to crown his labours with extraordinary success before removing him from earth to enjoy his reward.

### TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Friday, August 22.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to an act of the 6th and 7th William IV., c. 85:—

Independent Methodist Chapel, Lancaster.  
Catholic Chapel, Stoke-by-Nayland, Suffolk.

#### BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

BUTLER, JOSEPH LAWRENCE, Liverpool, coal merchant.  
CURTIS, WILLIAM, Croydon, Surrey, builder.

#### BANKRUPTS.

CAVENDISH, GEORGE AUGUSTUS, Finchley, lodging-house keeper, August 22, Oct. 2: solicitor, Mr. Hembery, Bedford-row.  
HARTLEY, RICHARD HENRY, Halifax, sharebroker, Sept. 1 and 24: solicitors, Messrs. Jaques and Co., Ely-place, London; and Mr. Mitchell, Halifax; and Mr. Courtenay, Leeds.  
MUNDY, EDWARD, Liverpool, house agent, Sept. 2, Oct. 1: solicitor, Mr. Rogerson, Lincoln's Inn-fields, London; and Mr. J. Davies, Liverpool.  
MERRETT, WILLIAM GWILLIM, Oliver's-terrace East, Bow-road, surgeon, Sept. 5, Oct. 8: solicitors, Messrs. J. and T. Gole, Lime-street, Lendenhall-street.  
MUNIER, LOUIS, Leicester-place, Leicester-square, hotel keeper, Sept. 2, Oct. 1: solicitors, Messrs. Harrison and Dobree, Hart-street, Bloomsbury.  
MILLER, JOHN, Mary-street, Hoxton Old-town, baker, Sept. 2, Oct. 1: solicitor, Mr. R. Hare, Coleman-street.  
MOORE, JESSE CORNELIUS, Strand, bookseller, August 28, Oct. 2: solicitors, Messrs. Scott and Co., Lincoln's Inn-fields.  
SUTCLIFFE, JAMES, SUTCLIFFE, JOHN, and BERRY, WILLIAM, Bristol, Yorkshire, cotton spinners, Sept. 1 and 22: solicitors, Messrs. Gregory and Co., Bedford-row, London; Mr. Wavell, Halifax; and Mr. Courtenay, Leeds.  
TATE, HENRY, and NASH, ROBERT LUCAS, Bristol, stock-brokers, Sept. 4, Oct. 15: solicitor, Mr. Fox, Bristol.  
TAYLOR, JOHN, Meltham, Yorkshire, manufacturer, Sept. 3, Oct. 1: solicitors, Mr. Lever, King's-road, London; Mr. Laycock, Huddersfield; and Mr. Bond, Leeds.  
TAW, WILLIAM, Halifax, coal dealer, Sept. 1 and 22: solicitors, Messrs. Gregory and Co., Bedford-row, London; Mr. Wavell, Halifax; and Mr. Courtenay, Leeds.  
WOOD, CHARLES THOMAS, Liverpool, corn factor, Sept. 29, Oct. 1: solicitors, Messrs. Vincent and Sherwood, Temple, London; and Mr. Robinson, Liverpool.

#### SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

CLARK, JOHN, Edinburgh, fletcher, August 25, Sept. 18.

GREIG, WILLIAM, and CARSWELL, WILLIAM JENKINS, Glasgow sharebrokers, August 25, Sept. 15.  
RANKINE, JAMES, Falkirk, grocer, August 28, Sept. 18.  
SHAND, WILLIAM, and CHRISTIE, THOMAS CRAIG, Glasgow, merchants, August 26, Sept. 16.  
SIMPSON, DAVID, and DICK, QUINTIN, Glasgow, writers, August 25, Sept. 15.  
STOTT, WILLIAM, Edinburgh, painter, August 29, Sept. 21.  
THOM, WILLIAM, Langolan, fletcher, August 27, Sept. 17.

#### DIVIDENDS.

Sept. 12, M. Barnes, Woodbridge, Suffolk, chemist—Sept. 12, J. G. Wilson, Wenlock-basin, City-road, engineer—Sept. 12, J. Salmon, Beaumont, Essex, carpenter.

Tuesday, August 25th.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to an act of the 6th and 7th William IV., c. 85:—  
Wesleyan chapel, Hythe, Kent.  
Ebenezer chapel, Burnley, Lancashire.

#### BANKRUPTS.

BOLAND, JOHN, Manchester, hardwareman, September 4, 25: solicitors, Messrs. Mottram and Co., Birmingham; and Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester.  
BRINDLEY, JOHN, Coventry, laceman, September 5, October 13: solicitors, Mr. H. Llewellyn, 29, Noble-street, Cheapside, London; and Mr. W. S. Sutton, Birmingham.  
HARVEY, JOSEPH, King William-street, lamp manufacturer, Sept. 5, Oct. 6: solicitors, Messrs. Norton and Son, New-street, Bishopsgate.

HUMFREY, JOHN, Hockley, Warwickshire, coal dealer, Sept. 5, 29: solicitor, Mr. Rawlings, Birmingham.

FOUNELL, WILLIAM, High-street, Poplar, grocer, Sept. 3, Oct. 2: solicitor, Mr. Grainger, Bucklersbury.

SUTCLIFFE, WILLIAM, Lawrence-lane, warehouseman, Sept. 3, Oct. 9: solicitors, Messrs. Hardwick and Davidson, Basinghall-street.

WOOLCOTT, HENRY, 19, Museum-street, fringe manufacturer, September 5, October 2: solicitors, Messrs. Willoughby and Jaquet, Clifford's-inn.

YATES, RICHARD, and WILLIAMS, THOMAS HARTLEY, Manchester, merchants, September 8, 29: solicitors, Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester; and Messrs. Reed and Langford, Friday-street, Cheapside, London.

#### SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BARBOUR, ARCHIBALD, sometime of Hounstoun, but now of Johnstone, spirit merchant, August 31, September 21.  
BROWN, ANDREW, Edinburgh, commission agent, August 28, September 25.  
GILMOUR, MARY, and Co., Cowgate, cabinetmakers, August 29, September 21.  
GLASS, ROBERT, Greenock, merchant, September 2, 22.  
HAY, JOHN, Kilsyth, grocer, August 31, September 22.

#### DIVIDENDS.

Harrison and Shields, London and New York, final div. of 3d.; Paradise-row, Stoke Newington—John Arkell, Stow-on-the-Wold, miller, first div. of 2s.; 19, St. Augustine's-place, Bristol, October 7, or any subsequent Wednesday—John Harford and William Weaver Davies, Bristol, iron masters, second div. of 13s. 4d.; 19, St. Augustine's-place, Bristol, any Wednesday.

#### BRITISH FUNDS.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 percent. Consols ..	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
Ditto for Account ..	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
3 percent. Reduced ..	96	96	96	96	96	96
New 3½ percent. ....	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
Long Annuities ..	10½	10½	—	10½	10½	10½
Bank Stock ..	209	209	208	209	209	208
India Stock ..	—	260	—	260	258½	260
Exchequer Bills ..	17pm	10pm	11pm	10pm	10pm	12pm
India Bonds ..	—	—	—	—	24	21

#### FOREIGN FUNDS.

Belgian ..	96½	Mexican ..	26
Brazilian ..	89	Peruvian ..	38½
Buenos Ayres ..	39	Portuguese 5 percent. ..	78
Columbian ..	18½	Ditto converted ..	45½
Danish ..	88½	Russian ..	111½
Dutch 2½ percent. ....	59½	Spanish Active ..	26½
Ditto 4 percent. ....	91	Ditto Passive ..	6½
French 3 percent. ....	82½	Ditto Deferred ..	16½

#### RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham & Gloucester ..	128	London & Croydon Trunk ..	23½
Blackwall ..	8½	London and Greenwich ..	9
Bristol and Exeter ..	87	Ditto New ..	—
Eastern Counties ..	22½	Manchester and Leeds ..	117
Edinburgh and Glasgow ..	70	Midland Counties ..	140½
Grand Junction ..	—	Ditto New Shares ..	37½
Great North of England ..	235	Manchester and Birm. ....	85
Great Western ..	152	Midland and Derby ..	122
Ditto Half ..	86	Norfolk ..	27½
Ditto Fifths ..	34½	South Eastern and Dover ..	43½
London and Birmingham ..	229	South Western ..	76
London & Birm. ½ Shares ..	30	Trent Valley ..	—
London and Brighton ..	65	York and North Midland ..	98

### MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, August 24.

The arrivals of English wheat were moderate, and we have a rather better supply for this morning's market, but it is not large. We had an active trade last week, and an advance of 2s. to 3s. per qr. was obtained on last market day; this advance is maintained to-day, but there is less business doing. Our town millers have raised the price of flour 3s. per sack; ship flour is 2s. per sack, and foreign flour 2s. per barrel, dearer. We have scarcely any arrivals of barley, and the trade generally is rather better; a few samples of fine new malted barley sold readily at 40s. per qr. Beans are firm, without alteration in value. The supply of peas is very small, and a few samples of new boiling fetched 50s. per qr. We had a large arrival of oats, and the trade last market day was very firm, and prices 1s. per qr. higher; but there is less doing to-day, and this advance about supported.

Wheat, Red ..	45 to 52	Malt, Ordinary ..	51 to 53
New ..	50 .. 55	Pale ..	56 .. 62
White ..	50 .. 57	Rye ..	30 .. 32
New ..	55 .. 62	Peas, Hog ..	34 .. 36
Flour, per sack (Tawn) ..	40 .. 46	Maple ..	33 .. 37
Barley ..	28 .. 30	Boilers ..	40 .. 43
Malt ..	32 .. 35	Beans, Ticks ..	35 .. 37

Beans, Pigeon ..	43 to 45	Wheat ..	48s. 9d.
Harrow ..	37 .. 39	Barley ..	4 .. 6
Oats, Feed ..	23 .. 25	Oats ..	4 .. 6
Fine ..	26 .. 28	Rye ..	4 .. 6
Poland ..	24 .. 28	Beans ..	4 .. 6
Potato ..	28 .. 30	Peas ..	4 .. 6

#### WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR AUG. 21.

Wheat ..	45s. 1d.	Wheat ..	49s. 9d.
Barley ..	27 3	Barley ..	27 4
Oats ..	23 4	Oats ..	28 8
Rye ..	30 7	Rye ..	31 10
Beans ..	39 6	Beans ..	38 9
Peas ..	36 0	Peas ..	35 10

#### AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.

Wheat ..	49s. 9d.	Wheat ..	49s. 9d.
Barley ..	27 4	Barley ..	27 4
Oats ..	28 8	Oats ..	28 8
Rye ..	31 10	Rye ..	31 10
Beans ..	38 9	Beans ..	38 9
Peas ..	35 10	Peas ..	35 10

#### BUTCHERS' MEAT, SMITHFIELD, MONDAY, August 24.

Notwithstanding the attendance of both town and country buyers was numerous, the beef trade was somewhat inactive, at barely, but at nothing quotable beneath, last week's prices; and a total clearance was with difficulty effected. The numbers of sheep were again very extensive. Prime old Downs commanded a brisk sale, at a further improvement in value of 2d. per 8lbs., the highest figure being 4s. 8d. per 8lbs. In all other kinds a good business was transacted, and in some instances the currencies had an upward tendency. Lambs, the supply of which was good, moved off steadily at late rates. The veal trade was in a sluggish state, yet we can notice no alteration in value. In pigs very little was done at late figures.



Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef .....	2s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.	Veal .....	3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.
Mutton .....	3 6 .. 4 0	Pork .....	3 8 .. 4 10
Lamb .....	4s. 4d. to 5s. 4d.		

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday .....	788	9,710	443	280
Monday .....	3,675	32,830	208	160

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Aug. 24.  
Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

Inf. Beef 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d.	Inf. Mutton 3s. 0d. to 3s. 4d.
Middling do 2 8 .. 2 10	Mid. ditto 3 6 .. 3 8
Prime large 3 0 .. 3 4	Prime ditto 3 10 .. 4 2
Prime small 3 6 .. 3 8	Veal 3 6 .. 4 4
Large Pork 3 4 .. 4 0	Small Pork 4 2 .. 4 8
Lamb .....	4s. 4d. to 5s. 4d.

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday.—The reports as to the appearance of the cloverseed crop on the ground are favourable, and there is at present little doing in either red or white. Trefoil supports its previous value, and trefoil was rather dearer. New winter tares sold at 6s. 9d. to 7s. per bushel. The quantity of mustard seed on sale was less than last week, and white was held at 2s. to 3s. per bushel higher.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.—Our butter market continues very firm, and during the week a good business done, and an advance of about 2s. per cwt. on the rates of this day's night obtained. Foreign has also further improved in value; best Dutch, 102s. The demand for English butter during the past week has been active, and the finest dairies have brought a higher price—96s. to 100s.; middling, 90s. to 94s.; Devon, 90s. to 92s.; fresh butter is more plentiful, and prices easier; 11s. to 12s. per doz. lbs. The demand for bacon keeps steady at improving rates; really fine parcels sizeable, and heavy being scarce, realized an advance of 2s. to 4s. per cwt. Other descriptions also brought more money. Lard has further advanced; best bladdered, 70s. to 72s. per cwt. Hams very scarce. In cheese prices are firm, the demand unabated, and the supply small. Prices per cwt.:—Double Gloucester, 62s. to 64s.; Single ditto, 48s. to 52s.; Cheshire, 56s. to 76s.; Derby, 50s. to 66s.

BREAD.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 7d. to 8d.; of household ditto, 5½d. to 6½d. per 4lbs. loaf.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday.—Reports from every part of the hop-growing counties, from day to day, assume a more favourable aspect. Where the bar appeared unusually slight, the hops have filled and grown out to an extent quite unexpected. No one is now against the duty being £180,000. Picking will be general in about a week. Some will commence earlier. The market is stagnant.

WOOL, CITY, Monday.—The wool market is dull, for the state of affairs in the manufacturing districts is not at all lively. The imports of wool last week were 1,748 bales, of which 579 bales were from Bombay, 445 from Germany, 370 from Sidney, 309 from the Cape, 17 from Italy, 16 from Tanagerog, and 12 from Mogadore.—LEADS, August 21.—We have no change to report in this branch of trade for the past week; a moderate business continues to be done, and prices are firm at our late quotations.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, Saturday.—Cotton is in fair demand, and steady at last week's quotations of American, though the market is without animation. Egyptian continues without change in price, though in fair request. In Brazil, Bahia has attracted the attention of speculators, and has brought full prices. Maranhão is without change, while Pernambuco is neglected. Surat continues in improved demand, and is steady in price. The sales of the week amount to 33,250 bales, including 4,350 American, and 1,650 Maccieo on speculation, and 2,979 American and 400 Surat for export.

## HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS.

Market Hides, 56 to 64lbs. ....	0 2½ to 0 2	per lb.
Do. 64 72lbs. ....	0 3 to 0 3½	"
Do. 72 80lbs. ....	0 3½ to 0 4	"
Do. 80 88lbs. ....	0 4 to 0 4½	"
Do. 88 96lbs. ....	0 4 to 0 4½	"
Do. 96 104lbs. ....	0 4½ to 0 5	"
Do. 104 112lbs. ....	0 5 to 0 5½	"
Calf Skins .....	3 6 to 6 6	each.
Horse Hides .....	13 0 to 0 0	"
Lambs .....	2 0 to 2 9	"
Shearlings .....	0 10 to 1 0	"

TALLOW, MONDAY.—This market is altogether firmer. Fine old Y. C. is not to be had under 41s. 9d., and new Y. C. from the landing scale at 42s. There is nothing new in the advices from St. Petersburg. The shipments are progressing steadily. The quantity already shipped off is rather less than for four or five years past. Town tallow is firmly held at 40s. 6d. net cash.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, August 22.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Old Meadow .....	63s. to 80s.	New Clover Hay .....	65s. to 98s.
New ditto .....	45s. to 74s.	Oat Straw .....	32s. to 34s.
Old Clover Hay .....	90s. to 116	Wheat Straw .....	34s. to 36s.

## COAL EXCHANGE, August 21.

Stewart's, 15s. 3d.; Hetton's, 15s. 3d.; Braddyl's Hetton's, 15s. 3d.; Lambton, 15s. 0d.; Adelaide, 15s. 0d.; West Hartlepool, 15s. 3d. Ships arrived this week, 194.

## GROCERIES, LONDON, Tuesday, August 25.

TEA.—The deliveries are large, but the market continues in a dull state. Common Congous are quoted 9d. to 9½d., and good common 9½d. to 10d. per lb.

COFFEE.—2,600 bags Ceylon offered in auction were only sold in part at a decline of 6d. to 1s. per lb.; Plantation middling grey, went at 65s., fine ordinary, 54s. 6d. to 56s., fine ordinary, 53s. to 54s.; Native, real good ordinary pale at 42s. to 42s. 6d. per cwt. 200 bags St. Domingo sold at 32s. per cwt. for good ordinary pale.

SUGAR.—120 hhds Barbadoes offered in auction were only sold in part at a decline of 6d. per cwt.; low to fine yellow fetched 46s. to 51s. 6d. per cwt. The trade bought only 250 hhds, and tierces. Refined goods were dull of sale; standard lumps at 61s., and brown grocery at 63s. per cwt. 4,000 bags Mauritius, in auction, sold at a decline of 1s.; fine yellow went at 49s. 6d. to 50s., good 47s. 6d. to 48s. 6d., middling 45s. 6d. to 47s., low 45s., fine brown 43s. 6d. to 44s., good 41s. to 42s., middling 38s. to 38s. 6d., low 37s. to 37s. 6d., very ordinary dark 34s., low to middling grey 45s. to 47s., good to fine 47s. 6d. to 49s., washed of various sorts 36s. to 48s. 6d., and syrup at 47s. per cwt.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

SPLENDID DINNER SHERRY, 21s. per Dozen.

**TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED OLD GINGER**  
WINE, 18s. per Dozen, recommended by the Faculty for Spasms, &c. At this season the most refreshing beverage, with cold spring water.—Agents appointed.  
JOHN EDWARDS, 39, Holborn-hill.

## VICKERS'S CURACAO PUNCH.

**THIS DELIGHTFUL LIQUEUR** stands pre-eminent as a finished specimen of what Punch should be. It is in a high state of concentration; and when diluted, presents to the connoisseur in tangible reality, that which before existed but in imagination.

That truly valuable stomachic, JAMAICA GINGER, is also most successfully combined with other wholesome ingredients; and introduced as a delicious Liqueur, known as, ORANGE GINGERETTE; and, in a stronger form (as an anti-spasmodic), under the style of GINGER BRANDY. These, as well as the eximious IMPERIAL LIQUEUR GENEVA, may be obtained at all the Spirit Merchants in the kingdom.

In order more effectually to protect the quality, and to present them to the consumer in a convenient form, these Liqueurs are bottled, sealed, and labelled by the Distillers.

JOSEPH and JOHN VICKERS and Co., LONDON.

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